

Bridges

PARENT NEWSLETTER



PARENT INVOLVEMENT @ COA



As schools of choice, all charters schools have something in common — they are places where meaningful parental involvement is encouraged and valued. Few things are more critical to the success of schools than parent involvement. Our charter was established in response to a need in the community/parents and, from the very beginning, has been strongly sensitive to meeting those needs on an ongoing basis. Parents are a child's first teacher and strong interaction between families, communities and schools is vital for student achievement. In these days - it's not an easy process. Parent involvement in child's education can never be taken for granted and, as educators, we appreciate and honor the parents who take their precious time to help our school.

On behalf of all COA staff and teachers, I would like to thank all parents who volunteered their time to the School Site Council (Tanya Kravchuk, Katie Tokar, Katie Romanovich, Ecaterina Vovc, Dimitry Misik) and supported us in all our school activities over the last 2 years. At Community Outreach Academy, we believe that together with the parents and community, we can make a difference. We encourage you to be an active participant in the educational process. This year we especially need parents of our English Learners (EL) to serve on the District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) and are looking for parents to serve on the School Site Council (SSC).

DELAC and SSC are elected groups of parents and staff. DELAC is intended for parents of English Learners to advise the principal and school staff on programs and services for English Learners. SSC's primary responsibility is to assist in developing, approving and annually revising the school site academic plan. In addition, the SSC oversees the site-based budgeting of categorical funds. Some specific tasks of the SSC are: review and analyze student data; participate in developing the Academic Plan and school site budget; monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the academic plan on an ongoing basis. If you are interested in serving on the SSC or DELAC, please submit your name or nominate another parent to become a member (nomination forms were sent to all COA parents via Parent Square -

► <https://forms.gle/CEJcAYmsj3DCYzVK6>.

SSC election/voting will take place at the end of September, 2021. Thank you for your continued support.

Larissa Gonchar, COA Director

Как школы выбора, все чартерные школы имеют нечто общее — это школы, в которых поощряется и ценится активное родительское участие. Немного факторов являются более важными для успеха школы, чем родительское участие. Наша чартерная школа была создана, как ответ на нужды общины/родителей и с самого начала очень серьезно относится к текущим нуждам и запросам родителей. Родители являются первыми учителями ребенка и тесное взаимодействие между семьями, общиной и школами является жизненно важным для успешного развития студентов. В наше время — это нелегкий процесс. Добровольная помощь школе со стороны родителей никогда не может считаться чем-то само собой разумеющимся. И, как профессиональные работники сферы образования, мы ценим и благодарим тех родителей, кто отдает часть своего драгоценного времени для того, чтобы помочь школе.

От имени сотрудников и учителей школы COA я хотела бы поблагодарить всех родителей, кто принимал добровольное участие в работе нашего Школьного Совета (Татьяна Кравчук, Катерина Токар, Катерина Романович, Екатерина Вовк, Дмитрий Мысик) и поддерживал школу в различных проектах на протяжении последних двух лет. Персонал школы Community Outreach Academy верит, что вместе с родителями и при поддержке общины мы сможем добиться успехов. Мы поощряем всех наших родителей быть активными участниками в процессе школьного образования. В этом году мы особенно нуждаемся в кандидатах от родителей EL студентов для работы в Комитете по Изучению Английского Языка (DELAC). Мы также ищем достойных кандидатов для работы в нашем Школьном Совете (SSC).

DELAC и SSC — это школьные комитеты, которые избираются и состоят из родителей и сотрудников школы. Комитет DELAC дает возможность родителям EL студентов консультировать директора и персонал школы по программам и услугам для EL студентов. Главная задача Школьного Совета (SSC) - содействовать в развитии, утверждении и ежегодной ревизии академического плана школы. Дополнительно, Школьный Совет осуществляет надзор за бюджетом школы (categorical funds). Другие специфические задачи Школьного Совета включают в себя: обзор и анализ академических данных студентов; участие в развитии академического плана и бюджета школы; регулярный контроль за внедрением и эффективностью академического плана школы. Если вы заинтересованы в участии в работе Школьного Совета SSC или Комитета DELAC, пожалуйста, представьте на рассмотрение вашу кандидатуру или номинируйте другого родителя (электронные формы для номинации были высланы вам через Parent Square <https://forms.gle/CEJcAYmsj3DCYzVK6>). Выборы в Совет Школы пройдут в конце сентября 2021 г. Спасимо вам за постоянную поддержку нашей школы.

Лариса Гончар, Директор школы COA

STANDARDS-BASED GRADING @ COA



At COA, we envision a student-friendly report card with clearly defined learning targets aligned to high quality, balanced, rigorous assessments that will prepare our students to be college and career ready. Our Standards-Based Report Card seeks to provide meaningful feedback so both students and parents can track student progress toward mastery of key academic concepts, reflect upon strengths and weaknesses, and identify multiple pathways to deepen learning. This is the vision of COA for our 2021/2022 school year.

What is standards-based grading (SBG)?

Standards-based grading communicates in student-friendly language, how students are performing on a set of clearly defined learning targets by grade level. Our teachers developed these learning targets based on Common Core Standards within each grade level. The purpose of standards-based grading is to identify what a student knows, in relation to pre-established learning targets, as opposed to merely averaging grades/scores throughout a grading period, which can mask what a student has learned, or not learned, in a specific class. Our goal at COA is to know where each student is in the mastery of these learning targets. This provides us with specific information on how we can support or challenge each of our students.

How does SBG differ from traditional grading?

Unlike with traditional grading systems, a standards-based grading system measures a student's mastery of grade-level standards by prioritizing the most recent, consistent level of performance. Thus a student, who may have struggled at the beginning of a course, when first encountering new material, may still be able to demonstrate mastery of key content/concepts by the end of a grading period. In a traditional grading system, a student's performance for an entire quarter is averaged together. Early low quiz scores would be averaged together with the more proficient performance later in the course, resulting in a lower overall grade than current performance indicates. Standards-based report cards separate academic performance from work habits and behavior to provide parents a more accurate view of a student's progress in both academic and behavioral areas. Variables such as effort, participation, timeliness, cooperation, attitude, and attendance are reported separately, not as an indicator of a student's academic performance.

How will my child's grades be determined?

A student's performance on a series of assessments (both formative and summative) will be used to determine a student's overall grade in a course. Practice assignments (homework) are just that, practice, and thus should serve primarily as a source of feedback and instructional support for both students and teachers.

Nicole Strobel, Vice Principal

Download the ParentSquare app today!

Our school is excited to begin using ParentSquare, an all-in-one communications platform that helps keep students, teachers and parents connected. Parents were sent an email invitation to join the platform. You can also [CLICK HERE](#) to create your account. By registering, you can interact with your school's messaging, appreciate posts and much more! **EVEN IF YOU DON'T REGISTER, YOU WILL STILL RECEIVE ALL COMMUNICATIONS SENT BY OUR SCHOOL.** We also encourage you to download the ParentSquare app for iOS and Android.



COFFEE WITH THE PRINCIPAL @ COA



COFFEE WITH THE PRINCIPAL is a monthly meeting for parents to receive updates about what is going on at school and to ask questions. Meetings are held at our school from 8:30–9:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. We look forward to seeing you! / Кофе с директором - это ежемесячная встреча родителей с директором школы, на которой родители получают новости о том, что происходит в школе и задают вопросы. **Встречи проходят в нашей школе с 8:30 до 9:00 часов утра, в первую среду каждого месяца. Мы с нетерпением ждем следующей встречи с вами!**

PARENT

→ SEPTEMBER 23, 2021, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

WORKSHOP

Topic: **“Curriculum”**



- ◇ Classroom Assessments
- ◇ Standards-Based Grading (SBG)
- ◇ ELPAC/CAASPP
- ◇ Diversity

VIRTUAL / VIA ZOOM

The ZOOM link will be available on our school website

WWW.OUTREACHACADEMY.ORG