



Primary Years Academy of International Education

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WHAT IS A SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT?

A School-Parent Compact is an agreement that parents, students and teachers develop together. It explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach or exceed grade-level standards.

Effective Compacts:

- Share strategies parents can use at home
- Explain how teachers and parents will communicate about student progress
- Link to goals of the school improvement plan and focus on student learning skills
- Describe opportunities for parents to volunteer, observe, and participate in the classroom
- Describe how teachers will help students develop those skills using high-quality curriculum & instruction

ACTIVITIES TO BUILD PARTNERSHIPS

PYA values parent participation and input. Fifteen hours of volunteer service /participation is required of each family. Parents have the opportunity to fulfill this requirement and more in the following ways:

- Attending the Back to School picnic at the start of the school year
- Volunteering in the classrooms: This includes: listening to students read, helping students with projects, helping teachers prepare projects, and chaperoning field trips.
- Assist Teachers: Parents help by making copies and performing other related tasks for teachers.
- Work at Home: Many parents volunteer their time while at home, preparing materials needed in the classroom, or translating newsletters into Spanish
- Participation in Family Nights, IB parent meetings, Specialty School recruitment days, field trips and PTA events
- Participation in School committees such as School Site Council (SSC), English Learner Advisory Committee(ELAC) and PTA

COMMUNICATION ABOUT STUDENT LEARNING

Parents are kept up-to-date on their students' progress and get regular tips on home learning in variety of ways, including: trimester report cards and progress reports, parent/teacher communication through student planners and/or phone calls, emails or other tech-based system, classroom newsletters, student-led conferences at least twice a year, parent-teacher conferences when requested by the teacher or parent, required signatures on assessments and assignments, and in IB newsletters. IB parent meetings are held monthly and provide parents with information on IB curriculum and assessments, and provide tips on home learning. Parents have the opportunity to observe in classrooms. Parents are also invited to the classroom when their child presents their IB projects to the class. Family Nights are held at least 4 times per year and involve parents in our IB, ELA, math, science and the arts curriculum. Student Study Team meetings are arranged for students struggling with academics or behavior. At all of these, parents are consulted about which communication strategies that work best for them. Parents are surveyed annually to provide information about their concerns or satisfaction with the school's program and communication.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

When PYA was founded in 2010, a team of school staff and parents formed to develop the compact, school handbook and school plan. The compact and handbook and school plan are reviewed and updated annually in SSC/ELAC meetings which are held after school, at PTA meetings, which are held in the evenings, and by faculty at faculty, leadership and staff meetings. It is published in the annual handbook distributed at registration or the first day of school. Parents are invited to complete yearly surveys (EL parent survey and parent survey) which inform staff of their satisfaction or concerns with school communication and their child's education. The results of these surveys are analyzed at the SSC/ELAC meetings, and recommendations for changes are discussed and made.

DISTRICT & SCHOOL GOALS

1. Every child by the end of 3rd grade will read and comprehend at the proficient level.
2. Every child by the end of 9th grade will demonstrate mastery of Algebra concepts and application.
3. Every child by the end of 12th grade will graduate and be college, career and community ready.
4. At PYA, all students learn what it means to be an internationally-minded person through lessons and projects taught and assigned, within six trans-disciplinary IB Units of Inquiry each year.

SCHOOL'S COMMITMENT

- Teachers will arrive every day by 7:45 am.
- We will maintain professional standards for appearance and a positive attitude.
- Staff is committed to providing a high quality curriculum that incorporates a rigorous IB curriculum and will do whatever it takes for every student to become proficient in both the International Baccalaureate (IB) concepts and philosophy, as well as the California Common Core State Standards (CCSS).
- Staff will participate in ongoing professional development to ensure we are providing a high quality curriculum.
- Teachers, parents, principal and support staff will communicate, and work collaboratively to meet student needs.
- Staff will be responsive to students and parents, and listen to any concerns they might have.
- Staff will protect the safety, interests and rights of all individuals in the classroom and school.
- Communication is provided in Spanish and will be provided in the families' mother tongue, if different, upon request.

PARENT'S COMMITMENT

- We will ensure that our child is on time and at school daily from 8:00 a.m. until dismissal.
- We will help our child and do whatever it takes for him/her to learn and succeed in school.
- We will:
 - check our child's homework and school projects every night
 - read with him/her every night
 - provide 15 hours of volunteer/participation hours per year.
- We know that we have the opportunity to observe the classroom when scheduled with the school and/or classroom teacher.
- We will be responsive to our child and the school regarding any concerns that we or they might have. If our child is going to miss school, we will notify the PYA office. We will carefully read all the documents that the school sends home to us hard copy or electronically.
- We will ensure that our child wears the PYA uniform and follows the PYA dress code daily.
- We understand that our child must follow SUSD and PYA rules in order to protect the safety, interests and rights of all individuals in the classroom. We are responsible for the behavior and actions of our child. We will read the PYA Handbook.
- We understand that failure to adhere to these commitments can cause our child to lose various PYA privileges and can cause our child to be returned to his/her home school.

STUDENT'S COMMITMENT

- I will get enough sleep, eat breakfast, and be in line for morning announcements by 8:00 a.m. every day.
- I will wear a PYA uniform and follow the PYA dress code.
- I will demonstrate the attributes of the IB Learner Profile as I work, think, and behave. I will do whatever it takes for me to learn.
- I will complete all my homework every night. I will talk to my teacher if I have a problem with the homework or school, and I will raise my hand and ask questions in class if I do not understand something.
- I will be responsive to my parents, teachers and staff regarding any concerns they might have. If I make a mistake, I will tell the truth and accept responsibility for my actions.
- I will always behave in a manner which protects the safety, interests and rights of all individuals in the classroom and school. I will always **SOAR**: be **S**afe, be **O**bservant, **A**ct responsibly and be **R**espectful.
- I am responsible for my own behavior and I will follow my teacher's directions.
- I understand that failure to adhere to these commitments can cause me to lose various PYA privileges, and could cause me to return to my home school.