

Cohoes Middle School: School-Parent Compact

The Cohoes Middle School staff , and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards.

This school-parent compact is in effect during school year 2010-2011.

School Responsibilities

Cohoes Middle School will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:

- Follow NYS Learning Standards
- Provide varied instructional methods which address different learning styles
- Use technology when appropriate

2. Hold parent-teacher conferences during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement.

- The Cohoes Middle School hosts a "Back to School Night" on September 9th 2010 and a Student Exhibition on March 10th 2011. These events offer opportunities for parents to have on-on-one interactions with their child's teachers.
- All parents are strongly encouraged and entitled to schedule a conference with their child's team of teachers at their convenience by contacting our CMS Guidance Office at 237-4131 X2227.

3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress. Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:

- Quarterly interim/progress reports mailed home.
- Quarterly report cards mailed home.
- Free access to the Parent Portal. The Parent Portal is a web-based tool that allows parents to view their child's school progress, find out about assignments, and view teacher web pages. Middle school students also have access to the portal by way of their own username and password.

Parent-teacher Conference

- All parents are strongly encouraged and entitled to schedule a conference with their child's team of teachers at their convenience by contacting our CMS Guidance Office at 237-4131 X2227.

Provide additional opportunities to talk with teachers and staff

- Observations via “Take Your Parent to School Day”
- Phone calls
- Emails
- Notes/letters home
- Student Planners
- School calendar/newsletter
- Teacher websites
- Parent Teacher Organization
- Middle School Events
- Automated calling system to notify parents of school-wide events/changes

4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff.

Parents may:

- Call the Guidance Office and set up a time for a team conference.
- Email the teacher.
- Call the teacher (each teacher has her or his own voice mail).
- Send a note to the teacher by the student.

5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities.

Parents may:

- Help with (monitor/organize) events such as dances, field trips, and Global Youth Service Day
- Attend field trips with students
- Attend special classroom events (student presentations)

Parent Responsibilities:

We, as parents, will support our children’s learning in the following ways:

- Monitor attendance
- Ensure that homework is completed.
- Participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children’s education.
- Stay informed about my child’s education and communicate with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.
- Serve to the extent possible, on advisory groups, such as Title I advisory committees and parental involvement committees.
- Support school discipline policies.

Student Responsibilities

We, as students, will share the responsibility to improve our academic achievement and achieve the State’s high standards. Specifically, we will:

- Complete homework when assigned and ask for help when necessary.
- Read at least 30 minutes every day outside of school time.
- Give to parents, or the adult who is responsible for my welfare all notices and information received by me from my school every day.
- Attend school regularly.
- Be responsible for personal behavior.