



# *Opportunity Charter School*

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## *Opportunity Charter School- Parent Compact 2018-2019*

### **The Opportunity Charter School will:**

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

#### **Overview of Curriculum**

Students hone their higher-order thinking skills and adopt learning strategies to help them access content at all grade levels. Students are assessed using the NWEA MAP assessments three (3) times a year.

OCS provides a rigorous curriculum aligned to the New York State Standards with a particular emphasis on individualizing education to meet students' needs. For students who need accelerated and/or advanced curriculum, honors classes are offered. All high school classes focus on preparing students to pass the New York State Regents exams and getting students ready for college and career. For those who are struggling, the school offers remediation and additional instructional support throughout the school day and extended day programs. For instance, in the high school, there are extensive opportunities for credit recovery for students who need additional support to receive course credits. Online learning and independent studies are also offered to help students meet course requirements for graduation.

#### **Behavior Management**

OCS focuses on creating and sustaining school-wide classroom and individual systems of support which improve students' ability to behave appropriately and meet school-wide expectations.

We ask students to adhere to the school's expectations. Students who meet these expectations are acknowledged in a number of ways including at award ceremonies and special field trips. Students who repeatedly do not comply with these expectations, however, face appropriate disciplinary action.

OCS staff are trained to provide structure for students, ensure the safety and trust of all staff and students, as well as to promote social, emotional, and academic growth. School Culture team members are positioned throughout the school to assist teachers and students. Their interventions help students in crisis to return to a normal state of functioning as quickly as possible.

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

Progress reports are officially distributed halfway through every quarter. Report cards are issued three times a year during Parent/Teacher Conference and those dates are:

**1<sup>st</sup> quarter** December 5, 2019

**2<sup>nd</sup> quarter** February 27, 2020

**3<sup>rd</sup> quarter** April 30, 2020

**4<sup>th</sup> quarter** Mailed Out

Parents are asked to come into the school during report card distribution times to retrieve their child's report card and to meet with their child's teachers. All report cards not picked up by parents/guardians are mailed home within the week.

Parent-teacher conferences are an important part of the learning process as they give families the opportunity to have a formal and individualized discussion about the student's progress. Parents are encouraged to attend all conferences that are held.

3. Provide parents with reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:

Parents and visitors are always welcome to visit us. All visitors must show ID and report to the school's Main Office (room 406) to sign in. Visitors will receive a Visitor Pass indicating where they can go in the school. This procedure enables us to minimize disruption to our program and to ensure a degree of safety for our students. The office is open between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00p.m.

Parents can make an appointment with the Principal or other instructional staff via email or phone to speak about their child's progress. They are also welcome to drop in for a meeting, if staff is available.

4. Provide parents with opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class and to observe classroom activities as follows:

Parents are encouraged to assist with field trips and to help organize classroom materials. They can meet with their child's Social Worker to arrange classroom visits/observations of their child. Parents are also welcome to join the Parent Association.