



# THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

## *Southwark School* **School-Parent Compact**

***School Year 2024-2025***

***Revision Date:***  
***04/29/2024***

Dear Parent/Guardian,

### **JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

*The parents, students, and staff of Southwark School have partnered in collaboration to develop and write the School-Parent Compact for achievement. Teachers recommended a range of school-home strategies, our parents discussed the kinds of support they need to provide an optimal home learning environment, and students shared some insight into what helps them learn best. Parents are encouraged to attend Southwark's annual revision meeting that is held in March to review the School-Parent Compact and offer suggestions and recommendations based on our School Anchor Goals and student needs. This year's meeting took place on April 29, 2024. We also invite parents to participate in the School Family Engagement survey that is also used as a tool to collect parent feedback regarding the current Title I programs, policies, and family engagement at Southwark.*

To understand how working together can benefit your child, it is first important to understand the district's and school's goals for student academic achievement.

[The Board of Education's updated Goals and Guardrails are available on the School District Website at www.philasd.org.](http://www.philasd.org)

### **Southwark School GOALS**

- *At least 42.6% of grade 3-8 students will score proficient/advanced on the ELA PSSA*
- *At least 35.6% of grade 3 students will score proficient/advanced on the ELA PSSA*
- *At least 26.9% of grade 3-8 students will score proficient/advanced on the Math PSSA*
- *At least 75% of all students will attend school 95% of days or more*
- *At least 99% of students will have zero out-of-school suspensions*
- *At least 15.8% of students with disabilities in grades 3-8 will score proficient/advanced on the ELA PSSA*

To help your child meet the district and school goals, the school, you, and your child will work together:

### **SCHOOL/TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Southwark School will:

*I. Address the need for parent workshops and greater communication with our families to ensure the academic success and support of our students, by creating a yearlong plan that identifies academic topics by grade clusters, resources needed, specialists, and our intended outcomes in the scope and sequence.*

*II. Southwark will provide a series of Parent Engagement Initiatives in an effort to build our parents' understanding of:*

- a. Early Literacy*
- b. Completion of Work*
- c. Digital Literacy*

*III. Parent/Teacher Report Card Conferences:*

- a. Report Card Conferences are held three times a year*
- b. Parents have an opportunity to discuss their child's progress with the teacher, as well as receive strategies to assist their child in their areas of need.*

*IV. Conduct the MTSS Process for students who are struggling academically, socially, and/or behaviorally:*

- a. The MTSS Referral Form has been created for teachers to fill out when they have concerns for a student's behavioral or academic progress. The link to access the form is below. When teachers have a student referral, they will follow these steps:*
  - 1) Fill out the MTSS Referral Form and give a HARD COPY to Emily...do not submit the form electronically.*
  - 2) Once the MTSS Team receives the form, the team will discuss the student during the weekly MTSS meetings.*
  - 3) The team will return the form to the teacher with "next steps" to follow in regards to the student. If the team believes that a Behavioral or Academic Plan is warranted, the teacher will create the plan in SIS (with assistance from a team member if needed).*
  - 4) The plan will then be put into action for a 6-8 week period. After the intervention period, the teacher will meet with the MTSS Team to discuss the*  
*Page 3 of 4*  
*outcomes of the interventions and what next steps are necessary, including a parent meeting.*

*V. Title I Winter Meeting: Present Title I information and School Performance Data to families during our annual meeting that includes a dinner for parents/guardians*

**PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

We, as parents, will:

- Monitor our children's attendance and ensure that our children arrive to school on time and maintain an attendance rate of 95% or better.*
- Ensure that our children are in proper school uniform.*
- Make sure that all homework is completed.*
- Limit the amount of television, cell phone usage, and video game time for our children to the recommended two hours each day.*
- Participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to our child's education – this includes attending Parent/Teacher Report Card Conferences, Back to School Night, and other parent activities.*
- Update our contact information, including our telephone number and mailing address, with the main office whenever they change.*
- Stay informed about my child's education and communicate with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school and/or the District received by my child and responding, as appropriate. Additionally, inform school personnel of the best channels of communication.*
- Work with the school collaboratively to ensure positive outcomes when challenges and conflicts arise.*
- Serve, to the extent possible, on the Southwark SAC, and participate in Southwark's Home & School.*

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- *Arrive on time, in uniform and maintain at least 95% attendance or better.*
- *Do our homework every day and ask for help when needed.*
- *Limit the amount of time spent on electronic devices to the recommended 2 hours each day*
- *Read at least 30 minutes every day outside of school time.*
- *Give to our parents / guardians all notices and information received by me from my school every day, and tell our parents / guardians what is going on at school.*
- *Follow the 7 Habits.*
- *Work collaboratively with parents, peers and staff to create a schoolwide positive environment. A positive environment includes, but is not limited to, paying attention in class, participating in class, and treating all members of the school community with kindness and respect.*

**COMMUNICATION ABOUT STUDENT LEARNING:**

*Southwark School is committed to frequent two-way communication with families about children's learning. Some of the ways you can expect us to reach you are:*

- *Communication during Arrival and Dismissal times*
- *Report cards distributed four times a year*
- *PSSA Parent Reports*
- *Interim Reports*
- *Report Card Conferences*
- *Daily Behavior Charts (when applicable)*
- *Parent/Teacher meetings as needed*
- *Teacher/parent communication as needed over the phone, texts, and/or emails*
- *Robo-Calls*
- *Paper flyers*
- *Southwark School website and social media pages*
- *Southwark e-Newsletter*

*For the 2024-2025 School Year, the school commits to ensuring that all families are made aware of the best way to get in touch with their child's teacher at the beginning of the academic year. We will also be piloting a new school-wide weekly folder initiative in grades K-4 to ensure that families receive the flyers sent home with students on a consistent basis and receive documents from parents in an organized way. Finally, the school is looking into installing a message board in the playground area so that parents have access to information during drop off and dismissal times.*

*Please note the use of Language Line, Interpretive Services via BCA support, and translation will be provided at the highest extent possible.*

**ACTIVITIES TO BUILD PARTNERSHIPS:**

*Southwark School offers ongoing events and programs to build partnerships with families.*

- *Back to School Night*
- *Parent Workshops and Events*
- *Instructional Showcases*
- *Kindergarten Open House*
- *Volunteering*
- *School Advisory Council (SAC) meetings*
- *Southwark Home and School*
- *Community School-related events*
- *Southwark Saturday School*
- *Other events as initiated by teachers, such as the Coffehouse program coordinated by the music teachers in the 2024-2025 school year*