



# Haas Hall Academy

## Parental Involvement Plan

### 2019.2020

Every Scholar, Every Day - College Bound!

Haas Hall Academy Fayetteville	Haas Hall Academy Bentonville	Haas Hall Academy @ The Jones Center	Haas Hall Academy @ The Lane
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# HAAS HALL ACADEMY

EVERY SCHOLAR, EVERY DAY – COLLEGE BOUND  
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Fall of 2019

Dear Haas Hall Academy Community:

Congratulations and thank you for choosing Haas Hall Academy as the next step in your scholar's academic career! I am pleased to inform you are joining an exceptional group of individuals who have made the important decision to focus on preparing for college.

Haas Hall Academy is an extraordinary school of choice. Each of you chose Haas Hall Academy because of our outstanding academic accomplishments and our unique learning environment. This is your school. You are always welcome.

Education is a dynamic partnership where active parental involvement is essential to your scholar's academic success at Haas Hall Academy. Scholars who have not been successful at Haas Hall Academy have parents who weren't involved in their scholar's education.

Parent involvement as Haas Hall Academy is much more than attending our conferences and Parent/Faculty Council meetings. Actively involved parents are informed parents. The academic success of your scholar is the responsibility of all stakeholders.

Since our inception in 2004, Haas Hall Academy has made the fundamental commitment to prepare your scholar for the academic challenges that will await them in college. Our accelerated curriculum is designed to educate, challenge, inspire and most importantly prepare your scholar for their higher educational pursuits.

Haas Hall Academy is a multiple national award-winning model of how a charter school can strengthen communities, inspire innovation and be a catalyst for the renewal of expectations for public education. Haas Hall Academy is the #1 ranked public high school in the state of Arkansas for eighth consecutive year and ranked #7 in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Our past, current and future successes are the result of complete and total effort from all stakeholders, our innovative academic programs, exceptional highly qualified faculty, and our collective high level of expectations for all scholars. Haas Hall Academy: Every Scholar, Every Day – College Bound!

Sincerely,

Dr. Martin W. Schoppmeyer, Jr.  
Founder and Superintendent of Schools  
MWS/hpt

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### **No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001**

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 is an accountability system. Its objective is to create high-performing schools by challenging states to have 100 percent of their public school students proficient in reading and math by 2014.

The act requires states to define adequate yearly progress (based on student scores on state assessments plus graduation rates for high schools and at least one other indicator for elementary and middle schools) to measure schools' progress in raising student achievement. Any Title I school that does not make adequate yearly progress for two consecutive years is identified as in need of improvement. Once identified, a school must meet the adequate yearly progress standard for two consecutive years before being removed from improvement status.

Schools in improvement face a set of sanctions (student choice of schools, supplemental educational services, or restructuring) based on how many years they have not made adequate yearly progress. All schools in improvement must submit a two-year school improvement plan that describes strategies for increasing student proficiency.

### **Parents' Responsibility for Scholar Achievement**

Studies show that certain parent-initiated interactions with children at home are associated with increased student achievement. These interactions include high parent expectations for their scholar to succeed in school and to attend postsecondary education and activities that encourage learning and structure at home.

The NCLB Act views parent involvement as central to raising student achievement and lifting schools out of improvement status – the act mentions parents more than 300 times! Parents have the greatest impact on their scholar's academic achievement. Parents are the largest influence on their scholar's sense of responsibility and attitude towards scholastic achievement. Positive reinforcement of these traits at home is invaluable to your scholar's academic progress.

The tone of the standard of excellence is set at home. Ultimately parents are responsible for their scholar's perception and dedication to their academic studies. Parental attention to scholar coursework and assignments is essential to his/her success at Haas Hall Academy. Parental effort is consistently associated with higher levels of achievement, and the magnitude of the effect of parental effort is substantial!

### **College Entrance Test Preparations – Yearly Requirement**

Haas Hall Academy is one of the nation's premiere college preparatory high schools. Parents must ensure their scholar's compliance in preparing them for college admissions.

All scholars in grades 9-11 must take either the ACT or SAT once a year. Haas Hall Academy's School Code is: 042762. Results of the exam score must be on file at Haas Hall Academy. For additional information about the dates for the exams visit:  
[http://www.haashall.org/HTML/test\\_dates.htm](http://www.haashall.org/HTML/test_dates.htm)

Violation of this policy will result in immediate termination of your scholar's tenure at Haas Hall Academy. This is a requirement and will be actively monitored by the school. There are no exceptions!

### **Mission**

To provide an aggressive alternative to the traditional learning environment for scholars with high intensity of purpose seeking an aggressive, rigorous, college preparatory curriculum focusing in the engineering, technology, mathematics and science fields, enabling them to succeed at the nation's prestigious universities and to become pillars of their communities.

### **Vision**

Every Scholar, Every Day – College Bound!

### **Diversity Statement**

Haas Hall Academy is committed to providing its scholars with a positive and diverse environment. Diversity is that aspect of our community that represents the different thought processes, backgrounds, characteristics and skill sets that each individual brings to the pursuit of our common mission. Haas Hall Academy's commitment to diversity is in providing an environment where each individual is respected, honored and supported, and is rewarded on the basis of personal achievement and contribution.

### **Crest**

The colors of the Haas Hall Academy seal are Haas blue and gold. Haas blue represents truth and loyalty and gold symbolizes generosity and elevation of the mind. The seal's crest is equally divided into four parts. In the upper left hand corner, the ermine spot is emblematic of a mark of dignity. In the upper right hand corner the Fleur-de-lis illustrates purity. In the lower left hand corner is a mastiff, the official mascot of Haas Hall Academy. The mastiff, among the strongest of canines connotes courage, vigilance and loyalty. In the lower right hand corner is the peacock feather that represents beauty, power and knowledge. Our motto "veritas et sapientia" denotes truth and wisdom.

### **School Moto**

Veritas et Sapientia (Truth and Wisdom)

### **Statement of Core Values**

Rigor: Our collegiate-style environment and small class sizes provide scholars with the academic freedom to discover intellectual and personal passions through a demanding curriculum taught by motivated educators with professional backgrounds in their related fields. Beyond a robust regimen of core subjects, our scholars are challenged by their peers and the faculty to explore the meaning of complex information and to apply knowledge in the service of their communities and careers.

Responsibility: We develop responsible scholars by entrusting them with an age-appropriate degree of freedom, balanced with clearly defined standards of behavior and accountability. The interaction of freedom and accountability between scholars, faculty, and administration helps each scholar exercise the integrity, self-discipline, and responsibility necessary for success at the collegiate level.

Respect: We provide a supportive, safe environment for our scholars. The foundation of this environment is based on mutual respect among scholars, faculty, parents and administration. The culture of mutual respect extends beyond the classroom onto the campus, the scholars' homes and the surrounding community. Our scholars' self-respect and their respect for others are foundational to success in any endeavor after Haas Hall Academy.

### **Mandatory End-of-Course Review Sessions**

As each of you are acutely aware, No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requires all students to participate in end-of-course exams. In the state of Arkansas, those exams are part of ACTAAP (Arkansas Comprehensive Testing & Accountability Program).

These exams are the benchmark the Arkansas Department of Education utilizes to assess academic progress in schools. Under the Arkansas Department of Education's waiver from NCLB we have a new accountability system.

Under this new system, districts are classified as: exemplary, achieving, needs improvement, needs improvement focus and needs improvement priority. Haas Hall Academy has been classified as an exemplary school for the two years this program has been implemented.

School districts that don't perform well on ACTAAP exams are subjected to various types of probationary corrective measures. Open-enrollment charter schools like Haas Hall Academy who don't perform well are closed. Therefore, these exams are extremely important.

If you scholar does not pass an end-of-course exam, Haas Hall Academy's Declaration of Remediation Policy requires scholars to retake the course the following semester and an Academic Improvement Plan (AIP) must be completed, signed and on file. Furthermore, scholars who fail to follow Haas Hall Academy's Declaration of Remediation Policy will receive an "F" for the course(s) for which they did not score Advanced or Proficient.

Haas Hall Academy's educational philosophy is one where we don't waste time teaching to a specific test, but rather ensure your scholar is challenged academically and prepared for the next course succession. This, paired with our unique block scheduling of completing a year in a semester, requires us to hold mandatory ACTAAP review sessions for those scholars who completed Algebra I, Geometry, Biology and 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Literacy each semester.

Haas Hall Academy's School Board during its regularly scheduled board meeting on January 29, 2008 unanimously adopted the below consequences for scholars who do not attend review sessions. The policy is effective immediately. There are no exceptions. This policy will be strictly enforced.

Scholars who do not attend Mandatory ACTAAP Review Sessions won't be properly prepared to successfully participate in ACTAAP Testing. Absence from scheduled review sessions will result with the scholar having detention and/or suspension.

1<sup>st</sup> Absence – After school detention for three (3) days

2<sup>nd</sup> Absence – Suspension for three (3) days

3<sup>rd</sup> Absence – Suspension for six (6) days

NOTA BENE: Absences accrue by the semester – not by the specific course review session!

The test dates are posted on our website [http://haashall.org/HTML/test\\_dates.htm](http://haashall.org/HTML/test_dates.htm). If you have any questions or need additional information please do not hesitate to contact me. I thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

#### **Parental Involvement Committee**

Haas Hall Academy's parental involvement committee is comprised of parents, community members, faculty, staff and members of the administration. Parents interested in participating in the committee must contact Dr. Martin W. Schoppmeyer, Jr. Founder and Superintendent of Schools by September 1 of each academic year.

The committee will meet four times during the year at flexible times and days. The committee will annually review the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy in continuously improving the academic quality of Haas Hall Academy. The committee will also identify barriers and promote alternative avenues to ensure greater parental participation.

### **Mandatory Parental Involvement Policy**

Haas Hall Academy not only embraces parental involvement – we require it! Parental involvement and support in your scholar's academic endeavor is the key to the overall success of your scholar's academic career at Haas Hall Academy.

Education is a partnership. Involved parents are knowledgeable parents. Remember, this is your school. Be an active participant!

Haas Hall Academy understands the importance of parental and community involvement in promoting higher student achievement and general good will between the school and those it serves. Therefore, Haas Hall Academy shall strive to develop and maintain the capacity for meaningful and productive parental and community involvement that will result in mutually beneficial activities for the school, students, parents and the community. To achieve such goals, Haas Hall Academy shall work to:

- Involve parents and the community in the development of the long range planning of Haas Hall Academy;
- Have a coordinated involvement program where the activities of the school enhance the involvement strategies of the programs such as the Parent Faculty Council;
- Explain to parents and the community the state's content and achievement standards, state and local student assessments, how Haas Hall Academy's curriculum is aligned with the assessments and how parents can work with Haas Hall Academy to improve their child's academic achievement;
- Provide parents with materials and training they need to assist them to help their scholar achieve;
- Haas Hall Academy may use parent resource centers of other community based organizations encourage parental involvement and provide literacy and technology training for parents;
- Educate school staff, with parental assistance, in ways to work and communicate with parents and to implement parent involvement program that promote positive partnerships between the school and parents;
- Keep parents informed about parental involvement programs, meetings and other activities;
- Find ways to eliminate barriers that keep parents from being involved in their scholar's education;
- Train parents to enhance and promote the involvement of other parents;
- Provide reasonable support for other parental involvement activities as parents may reasonably request.

Haas Hall Academy will conduct an annual review of its parental involvement policies examining their affect on promoting higher student achievement. The review shall be conducted by a committee consisting of parents and other community members, faculty, staff, and member(s) of the administration.

### **Mandatory Parent/Scholar Orientations**

At the beginning of each school year, Haas Hall Academy holds mandatory orientation meetings for all new and returning scholars and their families. These meetings provide everyone with essential information that will ensure the academic success of your scholar. An informational packet will be distributed to the parent(s) of each scholar. These packets will convey:

- The school's parental involvement program and its seamless transition from junior to senior high;
- The recommended role of the parent, student, teacher and school;
- Ways for parents to become involved in the school and their scholar's education;
- A survey for parents' regarding their interests concerning volunteering at the school;
- A schedule of activities planned throughout the school year to encourage parental involvement; and;
- Procedures to allow the parents and teachers to communicate in a regular, two-way, and meaningful manner with the scholar's faculty members and school administration.

### **Parent Involvement Meetings**

Haas Hall Academy holds formal parental involvement meetings where parents are given a report on the state of the school and an overview of:

- What students will be learning;
- How students are assessed;
- What parents should expect for their scholar's education;
- How a parent can assist and make a difference in their scholar's education.

This information will also be distributed and reinforced by faculty during Faculty/Parent/Scholar Conferences. All stakeholders will understand their roles in the shared responsibility for the high academic achievement required at Haas Hall Academy.

### **Parent/Scholar/Institution Compact**

This parent/scholar/institution compact is a collaborative effort to ensure all stakeholders are committed to the education of your scholar. The purpose of this compact is to communicate a common understanding of home and school responsibilities to assure that every scholar performs at the high academic level required for future college success.

The following information serves as an outline of various ways your family and Haas Hall Academy can cultivate and maintain a partnership of shared responsibility for your scholar's learning.

### Haas Hall Academy Responsibilities:

- Provide an accelerated, advanced college-preparatory curriculum to all of its scholar body;
- Prepare your scholar to be successful in his/her higher educational academic pursuits;
- Provide our stakeholders with assistance in understanding academic achievement standards and state-mandated assessments;
- Provide college planning and scholarship information to all scholars;
- Require all scholars take the corresponding AP exam for all AP courses;
- Require all scholars grade 8 to take the EXPLORE every October;
- Require all scholars grades 9-11 to take the PSAT every October;
- Continually and proactively monitor your scholar's academic progress;
- Hold four (4) parent/faculty/scholar conferences per year;
- Provide parents opportunities to talk with members of the staff, volunteer in class and observe classroom activities;

- Ensure open lines of communication between faculty, parents and scholars;
- Educate faculty on the significance of parental involvement;
- Disseminate opportunities for parental involvement;
- Maintain highly qualified, professional faculty;
- Ensure a safe and secure learning environment.

Parent Responsibilities:

- Ensure my scholar attends school daily and arrives at school on time (no later than 7:50 a.m.);
- Pay for all exams (EXPLORE, PSAT and AP) on time;
- Require my scholar to follow the rules and regulations of Haas Hall Academy;
- Actively monitor my scholar's homework, grades and future assignments on Pinnacle and in person;
- Ensure my scholar has the necessary home environment conducive to successful completion of assignments;
- Accept responsibility for my scholar's behavior in and out of school and understand that behavior that violates the Code of Conduct, is grounds for dismissal;
- Always attend parent/teacher conferences and participate, when appropriate, in discussions relating to the education of my scholar;
- Agree to pick up my scholar's phone and have a meeting with appropriate personnel if my scholar's phone is taken away from him/her during the instructional day;
- Volunteer at Haas Hall Academy a minimum of three hours per year/per family for various school functions, field-trips, fundraisers, etc.;
- Ensure my scholar follows the letter and spirit of the dress code;
- Ensure my scholar takes SAT or ACT by April every school year;
- Guarantee my scholar is present and prepared on the day(s) all Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment & Accountability Program (ACTAAP) and PSAT tests are administered;
- Ensure my scholar has read the books required on the summer reading list before the first day of school;
- Ensure my scholar applies to a minimum of three universities or colleges no later than the end of January their senior year.

Scholar Responsibilities:

- Participate in the classroom as an active learner;
- Attend school daily and arrive to school on time (no later than 7:50 a.m.);
- Ensure my cell phone is turned off before school begins and not turn it on again until after school ends;
- Complete and turn in all classroom and homework assignments on time;
- Guarantee I am present and prepared on the day(s) all Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment & Accountability Program (ACTAAP) and PSAT tests are administered and take the exams seriously as they are a direct reflection of my academic progress;
- Accept responsibility for my own behavior in and out of school and understand that any behavior that violates the Code of Conduct, is grounds for dismissal;
- Take the SAT or ACT by April every school year;
- Follow the letter and spirit of the dress code;
- Read the books required on the summer reading list before the first day of school;
- Implicitly follow the rules and regulations of Haas Hall Academy;
- Demonstrate respect for myself, peers, family and school personnel;

- Respect all property of my peers and school;
- Ask for clarification or assistance when needed;
- Actively work with the Head of College Planning in preparation in applying to at least three colleges or universities by January of my senior year.

School, Parent, and Scholar Responsibilities:

- Expect and require complete effort at all times from all stakeholders;
- Promote academic excellence in all subject areas at all times;
- Continuously improve Haas Hall Academy's academic achievement at both the state and national levels.

**Parent/Faculty Council**

The Parent Faculty Council (PFC) of Haas Hall Academy was established on September 28, 2004. The main purpose of the PFC is to establish a parent-driven organization to assist Haas Hall Academy in creating opportunities and providing additional avenues for direct parental involvement at our institution. Haas Hall Academy expects 100% membership in the PFC annually. The purposes of the PFC are as follows:

- Provide a formalized network of parents that supports Haas Hall Academy its academic mission, vision and stated goals;
- Supply a collective voice of parents to Haas Hall Academy's faculty, staff, administration and school board;
- A means for the exploration and integration of diverse ideas, strategies and learning opportunities in an atmosphere that fosters a sense of belonging and academic excellence;
- Assist Haas Hall Academy in its goal to become the premiere high school in the United States;
- Recognize and award scholars and school personnel in their educational accomplishments.

**Parent/Faculty/Scholar Conferences**

In addition to faculty and administration being extremely accessible for parents and scholars at anytime, Haas Hall Academy incorporates a more formal environment to inform and discuss the academic successes of your scholar. Haas Hall Academy incorporates four (4) Parent/Faculty/Scholar Conferences per calendar year.

**eSchool**

All stakeholders at Haas Hall Academy may view assignments, grades and attendance real-time 24/7. The URL is: <https://hac.eschoolplus.k12.ar.us/homeaccess/> This system provides a unique level of effective and efficient communication between all stakeholders. eSchool allows parents to:

- Contribute more effectively to your scholar's academic success;
- Access detailed information about curricula, learning plans, and activities;
- Receive progress alerts through SMS;
- View up-to-date progress reports of current and past due activities;
- Become an active partner in improving the effectiveness of learning;
- Communicate effectively with teachers;
- Access teacher-parent resources;
- Ask more informed questions by increasing visibility of real-time scholar progress;
- Participate in online community forums to learn from other parents;
- Expand your scholar's learning opportunities;

- Easily locate relevant, qualified resources to accelerate learning.

### **Haas Hall Academy Google Groups**

As part of Haas Hall Academy's Parental Involvement Plan, Haas Hall Academy has an active Google Groups site. The URL is: <http://groups.google.com/group/HHAPFC>. Google Groups provides a platform for all stakeholders to communicate ideas and interests relative to their scholar's academic success.

### **Calling Post**

Haas Hall Academy uses calling tree software to inform and remind parents of upcoming events where parental participation is required or highly encouraged. Parents receive calling post communications and reminders about:

- Parent/Scholar Orientations;
- Parent/Faculty/Scholar Conferences;
- Family Fun Nights;
- School Sponsored Events.

### **Parent Initiated Interactions at Home**

Studies show that certain parent-initiated interactions with children at home are associated with increased student achievement. These interactions include:

- High parent expectations for your scholar to succeed in school and to attend postsecondary education;
- Activities that encourage learning and structure in the home;
- Regular family discussions of your academic aspirations for your scholar;
- Family rules that limit television time and encourage scholars to keep up their grades, complete homework and participate in educational activities.

### **Practical Parental Involvement Opportunities**

Involved parents are informed parents! Haas Hall Academy requires all families to volunteer for a minimum of three (3) hours per year. Below is a list of practical parental involvement opportunities. This is not an exhaustive list. If you have an idea for parental involvement please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Martin W. Schoppmeyer, Jr. @ (479) 966.4930. We love new ideas!

- Volunteer to drive our scholars to: field trips; track meets; BEST robotics competitions; Quiz Bowl meets, etc;
- Sign-up to be a guest speaker in the classroom or during our Rotary Club Style Dining program;
- Request our scholars make a field trip to your place of work when appropriate corresponding activities are being conducted in the classroom;
- Sign-up to be a substitute faculty member;
- Become a classroom volunteer;
- Assist in before, lunch time or after school monitoring;
- Chaperone our dances; parties and other events throughout the year;
- Become a judge for school-wide science fairs, art shows and quiz bowl regional and state invitational;
- Start a scholar organization based upon your personal hobbies.