

Contract for Excellence (the Compact)

Each one of us has a vital and critical role in fulfilling the Freire mission for every single student. Together, we believe that:

- **Love** binds our Freire Family and drives everything we do.
- Every student has the **power to build the future**. **Preparing all kids for college** ensures their futures are limitless.
- A safe, supportive, and uplifting community must be a **diverse and antiracist community**.
- We are all works in progress, committed to our **growth** as individuals, as schools, and as a network.
- **Safe and peaceful schools** free our kids to take risks and dream bigger.
- **Freire = Family**.

And together, we commit to support and foster the success of every student. This document sets forth what each of us commits to do in order to fulfill the Freire mission so that every student may access their full potential, go to and graduate from college, and build a strong future together. It is this document upon which we stand as a family and ensure love, learning and growth for us all.

Student Commitment

As a Freire student, I fully commit to:

Preparing Myself for College

- Aim toward college and take responsibility for doing the things that will help me get into college and prepare me for success there. This includes doing my homework every day, and getting involved in extracurricular activities, volunteering, and sports.
- Ask for help when I need it. Reach out to my teachers, academic advisors, peers, and also after school centers for academic help. Reach out to the Emotional Supports team if I need someone to talk to.
- Complete all work required of me, including any and all summer work.
- Take risks, ask questions until I understand, be brave, and learn – and help my fellow students do the same.
- Make sure my family has the information they need to support my success.
- Dream big and work hard to achieve those dreams.
- Commit to the Power of Yet. Approach each school year with the belief that I am capable of immense academic and personal growth with effort and perseverance.

Creating a Peaceful Freire School Community

- Protect the safety, interests, and rights of all individuals at Freire Schools.
- Tell the truth and accept responsibility for my actions.
- Treat all of my classmates with kindness and respect. Honor those who are similar and different from me by getting to know them, and reserving judgment.
- Solve differences with others in a peaceful manner and never physically harm another.
- Take part in peer mediations, mediations with staff, and generative conflict dialogues when there is conflict.
- Communicate with my parents/guardians and school staff, and address any concerns they might have with honesty and courage.

Doing the Things that Will Set Me Up for Success

- Attend school every single day I am able. I will only be absent for excused reasons (sickness, family emergency, legal issue, etc.), and I will call or email the school to let the staff know. Also, I will bring an official doctor's note, court notice, etc. when I return to school and promptly make up any work I missed.
- Arrive every day on time (Monday-Friday).
- Bring my Chromebook to school every day, charged and ready to go.
- Engage in class, and be an active participant in learning every day I am in school.
- Participate in discussions, share perspectives, and argue points of view respectfully, and as scholars.
- Put my phone away in school.

Staff Commitment

As a staff member, I fully commit to:

Guiding Students to Success

- Recognize that, as an educator, I must use my roles and relationships with students to amplify their possibilities to achieve, graduate from college, and be agents of positive change.
- Always teach and/or work in the best way I know how, and I will do whatever it takes for students to learn.
- Make myself available to students and parents, and address any concerns they might have.
- Support students in every way possible as they move toward college.

Creating a Peaceful Freire School Community

- Protect the safety, interests, and rights of all individuals involved with Freire Charter School.

- Solve differences in a peaceful manner and treat others with respect at all times.
- Take part in peer mediations, mediations with students, and generative conflict dialogues when there is conflict.
- When harm has been caused, work with those involved to understand the cause of the harm and restore our peaceful community.

Being Fully Present

- Recognize that we only have a finite amount of hours to educate students each school year. Commit to being engaged and fully intentional during that time to support student success.
- Arrive at Freire Charter School every weekday on time.
- Remain at Freire Charter School, or my designated location, until my obligations are complete (Monday-Friday).
- Make arrangements to attend Freire functions during times beyond the traditional school day.
- Ask questions if I do not understand something.
- Commit to bettering myself as an educator.

Parent/Guardian Commitment

As a parent/guardian of a current student, I fully commit to:

Supporting My Child's Success

- Make sure my child arrives at Freire Charter School on time every day.
- Ensure that my child only misses school for excused reasons (sickness, family emergency, legal issue, etc.). If my student is going to miss school, I will notify the school as soon as possible.
- Encourage my child to attend Freire functions beyond the traditional school day, including clubs, athletic teams, academic support, and special events.
- Remain active in my child's education. This means I will:
 - Do whatever it takes to move my child toward college.
 - Attend Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences three times per year, on days stated in the school calendar or whenever necessary.
 - Make sure my child consistently completes their homework.
 - Allow my child to go on school field trips and participate in off-campus events.
 - Read any and all communications that the school sends me, including weekly digital newsletters.
 - Be proactive in contacting staff if there is a concern.
- Make myself available to my child and to the school, and be open to dialogue.
- Ask questions if I do not understand something.

Creating a Peaceful Freire School Community

- Understand that my child must follow Freire Charter School rules and the Code of Conduct to protect the safety, interests, and rights of all individuals in our community.
- Encourage and expect my child to solve conflicts only in a peaceful manner.
- Take part in peer mediations and generative conflict dialogues when there is conflict.

Community Involvement

- Know that I am a welcome part of the Freire community at all times, and can be involved in a variety of ways. This could include participating in board meetings and committees, observing classes, joining a parent group, advocating for Freire Schools, and/or volunteering.

School Commitment

Freire Charter School commits to the following:

Fostering a Supportive School Climate

- Support students, staff, families, and community members on a shared mission of student success.
- Provide a safe space for students to learn and grow, for staff members to teach, and for parents/guardians to get involved.
- Make space for students to take risks academically, and to grow from those risks.
- Field questions from students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members, and address them with care and respect.

Keeping Parents/Guardians Informed

- Involve parents/guardians in the planning, review and improvement of the school's parental involvement policy in an organized, ongoing and timely way.
- Involve parents/guardians in the joint development of any school-wide program plan in an organized, ongoing and timely way.
- Hold an annual meeting to inform parents/guardians of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the right of the parents to be involved in Title I, Part A programs, including the right to request information related to the qualifications of their child's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals.
- Provide to parents/guardians a description of the school's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.

- At the request of parents/guardians, the school will provide opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions, and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children.

We all – students, parents, teachers, and the school – have a part to play in the success of every Freire student. With these commitments in our minds, hearts, and actions, we can create the safe and supportive learning environment needed to prepare students for college and empower them to build the future.