

## 2009-2010 Viers Mill Elementary School – Parent Compact

Effective schools are a result of families and school staff working together to ensure that children are successful in school. A compact is a voluntary agreement between these groups that firmly unites them. You are invited to be involved in this partnership.

Shared Responsibilities for:	School Staff	Parent	Student
<b>High quality curriculum and instruction</b>	<p>As a school, we expect all students to meet or exceed the MCPS grade level standards and the Maryland Voluntary State Curriculum (VSC). We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• review assessment results to determine strengths and needs of students</li> <li>• use the MCPS curriculum to plan instruction that will improve students' academic performance</li> <li>• give students timely feedback and opportunities to show what they know</li> </ul>	<p>As a parent, I will support education and believe that my child can reach high goals. I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• talk to my child about what is happening in school and about the importance of working hard in school</li> <li>• make sure my child goes to school every day on time</li> <li>• make sure my child does homework and schoolwork regularly</li> </ul>	<p>As a student, I will do my best and work hard. I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• come to school on time prepared to learn</li> <li>• pay attention in class and ask questions when I don't understand</li> <li>• complete all of my assignments</li> <li>• follow the rules of the school</li> </ul>
<b>Parent-teacher conferences</b>	<p>As a school, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hold at least one parent-teacher conference annually</li> <li>• assist parents in learning about ways they can help their children with homework and learning</li> </ul>	<p>As a parent, I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attend meetings about what my child is learning</li> <li>• ask questions about how I can help my child at home</li> </ul>	<p>As a student, I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• know what is expected of me in all of my subjects</li> <li>• talk to my family about things I am learning in school</li> </ul>
<b>Communication/frequent progress reports</b>	<p>As a school, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• communicate with families about high academic standards, student progress and the school's overall performance</li> <li>• communicate with families in a language that they can understand, when possible</li> <li>• communicate with parents and students about academic progress and behavior through interims, report cards and parent-teacher conferences</li> <li>• provide frequent communication through announcements, newsletters, and the school website to keep families informed of upcoming events</li> </ul>	<p>As a parent, I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attend Back-to-School events, parent-teacher conferences and other school-sponsored programs</li> <li>• communicate any concerns about my child's learning</li> <li>• tell the teacher or school when I do not understand something that is sent home</li> </ul>	<p>As a student, I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• talk to my family about things I like about school</li> <li>• ask my teacher for help when I have problems with my schoolwork/homework</li> <li>• share all schoolwork and notices with my family</li> </ul>

**National PTA Standards for Parent/Family Involvement Programs:** Standard I: Communicating; Standard II: Parenting; Standard III: Student Learning; Standard IV: Volunteering; Standard V: School Decision Making and Advocacy; Standard VI: Collaborating with Community

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<b>Accessibility</b>	<p>As a school, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide reasonable access to the school staff</li> <li>• make the school a friendly place for parents to meet, talk, and learn about their child’s education</li> </ul>	<p>As a parent, I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attend PTA meetings, parent trainings, and other special activities</li> <li>• ensure that the school will be able to reach me at any time</li> </ul>	<p>As a student, I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• help other students</li> <li>• respect all students and adults</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities to be involved/volunteer</b>	<p>As a school, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• encourage all families to volunteer and be involved in the school</li> <li>• provide parents with opportunities to give input about the school climate and instructional program through the School Improvement Team, the Parent Involvement Committee and school surveys</li> <li>• encourage parents to participate in their child’s education through PTA events, Curriculum Nights, conferences, and volunteering</li> </ul>	<p>As a parent, I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• volunteer for at least one activity during the school year (helping in the classroom, supporting special activities at school, chaperoning a field trip)</li> <li>• join school committees, such as the Parent Involvement Committee or the School Improvement Team</li> </ul>	<p>As a student, I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• get involved in projects that will help my school and community</li> </ul>

In this compact, “parent” is intended to include parents, guardians, and other family members involved in supervising the child’s schooling.

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