

AMISTAD ACADEMY

School-Student-Parent Contract

Amistad Academy is a partnership between parents, students, teachers, and staff to provide the best possible education for our students. In order to achieve our ambitious goals, we must all make a commitment to working together.

Pledge by the school

We will offer a high-quality education for all of our students. Teachers and other staff will work hard to challenge and support our students as they REACH for their personal best – both as students and as citizens. We know that what we do every day will dramatically impact the options that our students have in life, especially whether they go to college, and we promise to take this responsibility seriously.

Every member of the Academy staff will demonstrate the highest standards of professionalism and will serve as role models of the school's REACH values. Teachers will always be prepared for class and will continually engage students in the hard work that paves the way for success in high school, college, and life. We promise to hold each other accountable for the quality of the instructional program and for student progress.

We promise to appreciate, support, and respect every student. Each student will be assigned two teacher-Advisors to oversee the child's individual needs and progress within the school. No child at Amistad Academy will fall through the cracks.

We promise to communicate regularly with parents about their child's progress. We will return parent phone calls within 24 hours. At least two times a year, we will host Report Card Nights when teachers will be available to discuss student progress with parents. Half way through each grading period, we will send home academic Progress Reports to every student. We will respectfully work with parents, seeking their input and problem-solving with them to serve students more effectively.

We are fully committed to the extended school day and Summer Academy schedule. Our students will have the time they need to improve their knowledge, skills, and REACH behavior.

Teachers will assign productive, worthwhile homework each night to reinforce and support skills and concepts learned in class.

We will enforce Amistad Academy's REACH values consistently and fairly. When students are detained or suspended, or when students deserve recognition for their accomplishments, we will inform their parents promptly and fully.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

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Pledge by the parent (and guardian):

I, _____, am fully committed to supporting the education of my child, _____ . I promise to encourage and support my child as he or she works to achieve his or her goals.

I understand the Academy's REACH values, and I will make sure that my child learns to live up to them. I also understand that there will be disciplinary consequences if my child violates the REACH values, even in little ways, and I will support the school in their efforts to enforce high standards for behavior and citizenship.

I understand that every school day is important, and I will make sure that my child arrives at school every day on time (7:30 a.m.). If my child takes the bus, I will ensure that he or she is at the bus stop on time.

I understand that the Amistad Academy school day is longer than usual, and I will ensure that my child benefits from this extra time. I understand that before my child's 6th and 8th grade years, he/she will need to attend four weeks of Summer Academy. I will not schedule family vacations so that my child will miss school.

I will send my child to school every day in the Amistad Academy uniform.

I understand that Amistad's academic standards are very high. Grades and promotion are earned, and my child may need an additional year to master the challenging, college-focused curriculum.

I will communicate regularly with my child's teachers. I will return a phone call from a member of the Academy staff within 24 hours. If I am asked to attend a meeting at the school regarding my child's education or behavior, I will make every effort to be there. If I have a concern or questions, I will communicate in a respectful tone with Amistad teachers and staff.

I will provide a quiet place where my child will complete his/her homework. We will check to see that our child completes his/her homework every night. We will not sign the reading log unless we see our child read.

I will attend the annual Back to School Night (August 28 or 29) and the two Report Card Nights (December 16 and April 4) to conference with my child's teachers and to pick up the Report Card.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
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Pledge by the student:

I promise to very work hard, probably harder than I ever have before, to achieve my personal best. I understand that my education is important, and I will try to make the most of every opportunity I have to learn. I will never settle for so-so. I will do my best to attend school every day. I will arrive on time and in uniform. I understand the Amistad Academy REACH values, and I will try to live up to them every day.

R: I will **Respect** my classmates, teachers, my school property, and myself. My teachers hold the keys to my future; I will always treat them with special respect. I will jump to it when they ask me to do something. I also know that my classmates are my teammates; I will never put them down or let them down.

E: I will approach learning with **Enthusiasm**. I will do things with a positive attitude.

A: I will aim for **Achievement** in every subject by producing top quality work. I will complete my homework every night, including my required reading.

C: I will demonstrate good **Citizenship**. I will look for opportunities to help my classmates, my school, and my city.

H: I will always practice **Hard Work** when I approach a task. I will come to class prepared, focused, and ready to learn. I will give every task my very best.

I understand that Amistad's standards for academics and behavior are very high and that there will be consequences if I do not live up to the REACH values. If I fail to honor any one of the values, I will take responsibility for my actions, try to learn from my mistake and will work to improve my behavior. I know that I must always work to be a better student, a better citizen, and a better person.

Signed: _____ Date: _____