

# About KIPP Bridge Charter School

## **MISSION & VISION**

**Mission:** The mission of KIPP Bridge Charter School is to develop the academic knowledge, skills, and character traits necessary for students to achieve success in the finest high schools and colleges, and the competitive world beyond.

**Vision:** The vision of KIPP Bridge Charter School is to provide all students with an outstanding education that emphasizes critical thinking, reading, and writing. This education, along with the promotion of excellent citizenship and the appreciation of diversity, will develop college-bound community leaders.

## **SCHOOL VALUES**

The following six values are at the core of the KIPP Bridge Charter School's college prep school culture and contribute to the school environment:

- *Achievement* - All students participate in a rigorous, college preparatory academic program, striving for mastery in each academic discipline.
- *Commitment* - All teachers, students, and parents commit to do whatever it takes to prepare each student to achieve success in the finest high schools and colleges.
- *Honesty* - All students speak truthfully and act with integrity while practicing a steadfast adherence to a strict moral code in which respect and honesty are valued.
- *Respect* - All individuals associated with KIPP Bridge Charter School treat others just as they wish to be treated and display continuously courteous manners and self-discipline.
- *Responsibility* - All teachers, students, and parents hold every student to the highest academic and behavioral expectations.
- *Teamwork* - All staff and students ask for assistance when needed, and in turn, provide assistance to teammates who are in need.

## **COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE**

All teachers, students and parents are required to sign the "Commitment to Excellence" contracts below as part of their agreement to join KIPP Bay Area Schools and the KIPP Bridge Charter School Team and Family.

### Teachers' Commitment

We fully commit to KIPP Bridge Charter School ("KIPP") in the following ways:

1. We will arrive at KIPP every day by 7:15am (Monday – Friday).
2. We will remain at KIPP until 5:15pm every day and until 6:00pm as needed (Monday – Friday).
3. We will come to KIPP on appropriate Saturdays at 8:45am and remain until 12:15pm.
4. We will teach at KIPP during the summer school session from 8:30am-1:00pm.
5. We will always teach in the best way we know how, and we will do whatever it takes for every single one of our students to learn.
6. We will plan and execute rigorous lessons to prepare our students for success in high school, college and in life.
7. We will hold *all* of our students, parents, fellow staff members, and ourselves to KIPP's high expectations.
8. We are committed to results (both academic and personal).
9. We will collaborate and plan with colleagues on a regular basis.

10. We are committed to our own professional growth and constant learning. We will give each other feedback regularly and seek out professional development opportunities.
11. We will make ourselves available to the questions, concerns, or suggestions of our parents through scheduled meetings and phone calls.
12. We will make ourselves available to students, parents, and fellow staff members via phone in the evenings until 9:00pm.
13. We will regularly provide parents with updates on their children's progress via paychecks, progress reports, and report cards.
14. We will respect the rights and interests of everyone at KIPP regardless of race, color, gender, handicap, age, religion, disability, lifestyle, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, or national or ethnic origin to help promote a safe learning environment.
15. We will always act in a professional manner when speaking with all people in our school community: fellow colleagues, parents, and students.
16. We will strive to be the best teachers we can be, modeling excellence and taking no shortcuts in preparing our students for success in high school, college and in life.
17. We will ensure the safety of all students under our supervision.
18. We are responsible for our own behavior, and will accept responsibility for our own actions.

*Failure to adhere to these commitments can lead to our dismissal from KIPP Bay Area Schools.*

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### Student's Commitment

I fully commit to KIPP Bridge Charter School ("KIPP") in the following ways:

1. I will arrive at KIPP everyday no later than 7:30am (Monday - Friday).
2. I will remain at KIPP until 5:00pm (Mondays, Tuesdays, & Thursdays) and 3:30pm on Wednesdays & Fridays.
3. I will come to KIPP on appropriate Saturdays at 9:00am and remain until 12:00pm.
4. I will attend the KIPP summer school session every year.
5. I will come to school every day prepared to learn (examples: supplies ready, well-rested, positive attitude).
6. I will not take shortcuts. I will give 100% everyday.
7. I will always work, think, and behave in the best way I know how, and I will do whatever it takes for my fellow teammates and me to learn. Every day, I will be the best student and person I can be.
8. I will take charge of my own learning by following the KIPP principle of **SLANT**: Sitting up straight, Listening to teammates and teachers, Asking and answering questions, Nodding my head to show I'm following along, and Tracking the speaker.
9. I will complete all my homework every night. I will make sure my homework is of the best quality and that my parent/guardian signs my agenda.
10. I will return my paycheck (with parent's signature) to school every Monday.
11. I will ask my teachers for help when I need it both in class and outside of class until 9:00pm.
12. If I make a mistake, I will always tell the truth.
13. I will always follow my teachers' directions and school rules.
14. I will respect the rights and interests of all members of the KIPP community regardless of race, color, gender, handicap, age, religion, disability, lifestyle, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, or national or ethnic origin to help promote a safe learning environment.
15. I will always use appropriate tone and body language when speaking with someone at KIPP.
16. I will follow the KIPP dress code (grade level uniform shirt, khaki pants/long skirt, brown or black belt, tennis shoes).
17. I will be a good neighbor by participating in community service projects.
18. I will uphold the high expectations of KIPP at all school related events on and off campus.

19. I am responsible for my own behavior, and I will accept responsibility for my actions.

*Failure to adhere to these commitments can cause me to lose various KIPP Bridge Charter School privileges, spend time in In-School Suspension, or lead to my expulsion from the school.*

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### Parents'/Guardians' Commitment

We fully commit to KIPP Bridge Charter School ("KIPP") in the following ways:

1. We will make sure our child arrives at KIPP everyday no later than 7:30am. (Monday – Friday).
2. We will make arrangements so our child can remain at KIPP until 5:00pm (Mondays, Tuesdays, & Thursdays) and 3:30pm on Wednesdays and Fridays.
3. We will make arrangements for our child to come to KIPP on appropriate Saturdays at 9:00am and remain until 12:00pm.
4. We will ensure that our child attends the KIPP summer school session every year.
5. We will make sure to pick up our child on time: Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at 5:00pm; Wednesdays and Fridays at 3:30pm; and Saturdays at 12:00pm.
6. We give permission for our child to participate in supplemental instruction as needed.<sup>1</sup>
7. We give permission for our child to participate in the Saturday enrichment or supplemental instruction program on appropriate Saturdays.<sup>2</sup>
8. We commit to volunteering at least 10 hours of service to the school each year (volunteering includes attendance at mandatory meetings, office/classroom support, etc).
9. If our child needs to stay for Be Nice or Work Hard detention on Fridays from 3:30-5:00pm, we will make arrangements for him/her to stay. If my student cannot stay for a given detention, I will attend a Student Success Team meeting to make arrangements for the time to be made up.
10. We will do all we can to support our child and the commitment he/she has made to attend KIPP.
11. We will partner with the teachers and staff of KIPP to help our child excel in school, both academically and behaviorally.
12. We will always help our child in the best way we know how, and we will do whatever it takes for him/her to learn.
13. We will review our child's homework every night, sign his/her agenda, and let him/her call a classmate or teacher (until 9:00pm) if there is a question and/or problem with the homework.
14. We will review and sign our child's paycheck and ensure that it is returned to the school every Monday.
15. We will read carefully and sign (if necessary) all the papers the school sends home to us.
16. We will always make ourselves available to our children and the school and address any concerns they may have. We will meet regularly with teachers to discuss our child's progress.
17. If our child is going to miss school, we will call the school by 7:30am the morning of the absence.
18. We will allow our child to go on KIPP field trips.
19. We will make sure our child follows the KIPP dress code (grade level uniform shirt, khaki pants/long skirts, brown or black belt, tennis shoes).
20. We understand that our child needs to respect the rights and interests of everyone at KIPP regardless of race, color, gender, handicap, age, religion, disability, lifestyle, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, or national or ethnic origin to help promote a safe learning environment.

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<sup>1</sup> Participation in supplemental instruction is not compulsory, but is an important part of KIPP's Commitment to Excellence. If you do not wish for your student to participate, please inform the school principal by calling (510) 879-2421.

<sup>2</sup> If your child is unable to attend a Saturday school program for religious reasons, please notify KIPP Bridge Charter School so that other accommodations can be made.

21. We will always act in a professional manner when speaking with all people in our school community: KIPP staff members, fellow parents, and students.
22. We will help our child prepare for high school, college and life by supporting him/her and encouraging him/her to adhere to his/her commitment to excellence.
23. We are responsible for our child's behavior, as well as our own.

*Failure to adhere to these commitments can cause my child to lose various KIPP Bridge Charter School privileges, spend time in In-School suspension, or lead to his/her expulsion from the school.*

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