

# Parent and Family Engagement Plan

Updated July 2023

## Background and General Expectations

Section 1116 of the Elementary Secondary Education Act (ESEA) requires the involvement of parents, families and key community members of our students in the creation and implementation of Title I projects. Consistent with this policy, Bethany Community School will work to ensure that we are meeting the requirements.

## Purpose

Our goal of this Parent and Family Engagement Plan is to strengthen the partnership between school and home by engaging stakeholders with intentionality to aid in the involvement of the school.

## Parent involvement involves the active participation of stakeholders in an ongoing two-way communication that involves student academic learning in a meaningful way.

- Bethany Community School will develop a committee of stakeholders to include parents and staff representing each level of the school (middle and high) as well as the various subgroups of students enrolled in the school.
- The Parent Engagement Team will meet quarterly to review needs and program effectiveness.

### A. Build Parental Involvement

- Educate teachers and other staff to work with parents by providing training in this area throughout the school year. This is done by training our staff how to reach out to, communicate with and build relationships with critical stakeholders as equal partners in the process of improving student achievement.
- Provide materials, resources and training to help parents work with their children (Open House, student led conferences, homework assistance, etc., students and parents receive log-in information for sites such as Canvas). Communication such as ConnectED messages and emails that address various ways parents are able to be involved with their students academics. Teachers are encouraged to send out weekly reminders and updates to keep parents in the loop about classroom news for the week ahead. High school parents are invited to a variety of meetings and workshops throughout the school year. We also host Open House for all grade levels where families are given the opportunity to meet with teachers and other staff. There is an overview of grade level standards and expectations of the school year.
- Provide assistance to parents in understanding their child's progress, performance standards, and assessments to better participate in decisions as they relate to the education of their child.
- Seek out and create other activities as appropriate and feasible that are designed to assist parents with becoming full partners in the education of their child.

### B. Provide notice of the Parent and Family Engagement Plan

- The parental involvement policy will be available for parents to access and review on the school's website.
- A hard copy will be made available for parents in the front office upon request.

### C. Annual Meetings

- An open meeting to all stakeholders will be held each August to discuss school needs and plans to use available funding. All input is welcome.
- Parents will be informed of the requirements and participation needs of Title I.
- Parents will be notified about upcoming meetings through our school website.

#### **D. Quarterly Meetings**

- A Parent Engagement Team has been established and meetings will convene each quarter to discuss current progress toward school goals as it relates to Title I and II funding.
- Parents will be provided dates and times as well as the names of Parent Engagement Team members and are encouraged to provide feedback to those members ahead of each meeting.

#### **E. Opportunities and Parent Information**

We will provide all parents and families with the following:

- Assessment results of their child's performance-each teacher will inform parents how to access progress reports, report cards, and ongoing monitoring of grades through PowerSchool. Each student is given a letter explaining the results of their EOG or EOC scores as soon as the official results are received.
- School Performance Profiles - Parents will be informed of any changes or new developments in standard testing via ConnectEd messages and email.
- Timely response times to suggestions, concerns or questions brought to the school's attention by parents will be addressed within a 48 hour window and be communicated with clarity.
- An explanation and description of the curriculum, assessment form as well as proficiency levels and state standards by grade. Various meetings with parents and family events throughout the school year will support teachers in engagement with families.
- Opportunities to volunteer and participate within various areas of the school and reasonable access to staff and personnel.
- Teachers have access to email and Canvas as avenues to make and receive contact
- Parents, family members, and community members will be given multiple opportunities to be incorporated in the decision making process as it relates to the education and well-being of their children.
- Regular IEP and MTSS meetings are held to allow families of identified students, to be actively involved in the goals and plans for their children.
- Bethany Community School will provide support to parents on such topics as the Navigating the College Application Process, Ways I Can Better Assist My Student, and Navigating Canvas and PowerSchool.
- The school administration will create events for parents to engage and express concerns like Coffee with the Administrators

#### **F. Promote academic success**

- We will commit to delivering a curriculum that is rigorous and enriches all of our students that are directly aligned to the state's academic standards
- Small group instruction targeted for specific needs of students.
- Provide intervention services to students who need an additional layer of support.