

**Bliss School District #234**

**Parent Involvement and Family Engagement Plan**

**2022-2023**

**Parent Involvement** means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

1. that parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
2. that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;
3. that parents are full partners in their child’s education and are included, in decision-making and on advisory committees as appropriate to assist in the education of their child;
4. that parents are involved in identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parent involvement activities.

**Purpose:** The purpose of parent involvement is to increase each parent’s capacity to help their child(ren) be successful in school.

**“When families are involved in their children’s education in positive ways, children achieve higher grades and test scores, have better attendance at school, complete more homework, demonstrate more positive attitudes and behavior, graduate at higher rates, and have greater enrollment in higher education.” (Henderson & Berla 1994: Becher 1984)**

**Due to the Covid 10 pandemic all of the district’s parent and engagement program for the 2021 school year will be done remotely through the use of media, email, phone calls, texts, newsletters, surveys etc.**

**Last spring we met as a staff to discuss how to effectively teach during the shutdown. The Bliss District decided that we needed to get in touch with 100% of our families every week to make sure they have everything they need for their children to learn and then give families whatever supports they need or it was simply not going to work. Therefore weekly phone calls to every student in the district was implemented in the spring of 2021 to ensure the needs of our students and families were being met.**

**During the 2021-2022 if remote teaching becomes necessary weekly contact will again be initiated. Connections -matter more than connectivity and our school will do everything we can to support families as they take on the role of co-educators. We believe that a parent’s love for their children is the single greatest-and more underutilized-natural resource in education.**

**To facilitate meaningful parent involvement in our school we will:**

1. **Develop a Parent Advisory Committee:** The school will establish a parent advisory committee to assist in the review of their parent compact, parent involvement plan, use of parent involvement funds, and the annual review and evaluation of our school Title 1 program and ELL programs as well as the review and plan for school improvement. The school will solicit parents to serve on the committee at the start of each school year. Any parent of a student in this school is eligible to serve on this committee. The school will establish, from a list of parents willing to serve on the committee, a group of parents who serve throughout the school year. Every effort will be made to make all parents aware of the efforts of this committee and solicit input from all parents concerning these efforts. The Parent Advisory Committee, or any parent, may request opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children, and the school respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible. ((Depending on Covid-19 Restrictions)
2. **Annually review our Parent and Family Engagment Plan**: The school will, with consultation and input from their parents, annually review and when necessary revise this parent involvement plan. The plan will outline how the school will work with their parents to throughout the school year. A meeting will be held within the nine weeks of school to review and possibly revise this plan. This plan will clearly establish when and how parents will be involved in all aspects of the parental involvement plan. (Due to Covid -19 Restrictions the review will be conducted through parent surveys)
3. **Annually review our Parent /School Compact:** The school will, with consultation and input from their parents, annually review their Parent/School compact. The compact will list the responsibilities of the student, parent/caregiver, classroom teacher, and school administrator. All parents will be annually provided copies of the parent/school compacts at the start of each school year, and will be provided with opportunities for input into this document throughout the year. A meeting will be held in the spring of each year to provide parents an opportunity to review and possibly revise the current parent/school compact. Throughout the school year parent input on the parent/school compact will be solicited and used during the spring meeting in the possible revision of this document. (Due to Covid -19 Restrictions the review will be conducted through parent surveys)
4. **Annually establish how Title I Parent Involvement Funds will be used:** The school will, with consultation and input from their parents, annually develop a plan for use of any and all Title l parent involvement funds. These funds will be used to provide parents with materials, pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities (including transportation and child care costs) to enable participation in school related meetings and training, and other costs directly associated with increasing parental involvement. A plan for use of these funds should be completed at the first meeting of the school year, and be shared with all parents. (Due to Covid -19 Restrictions the review will be conducted through parent surveys)
5. **Annually review the use of Title I funds and evaluation of the use of these funds:**  The school will, with consultation and input from their parents, annually review how Title I funds will be used throughout the school year. This should be done at the first meeting of the year.Parents will be provided with data that supports the use of these funds and be asked for their input. Before the end of each school year parents will be provided with evaluation information/data that assesses the effectiveness of the Title I school program, staff development conducted throughout the year, and all parent involvement activities held during the year. (Due to Covid -19 Restrictions the review will be conducted through parent surveys)
6. **Facilitate regular, meaningful two-way communication:** The school will hold an annual meeting for parents to explainTitle l and ELL and what it means to them as a parent and to their student and to explain the right of parents to be involved in the school and in their child(ren)’s education. This will be done early in the fall. The school will also offer this information at meetings held at flexible and convenient times for parents. (Due to Covid-19 Restrictons all communication will be done via email, newsletter, school social media, district website, mail and phone calls) The school will provide parents a description and explanation of the curriculum, student progress measures, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet and how to monitor a child’s progress and work with educators to improve the student achievement. The school will ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents in a timely manner and in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand, and provide reasonable alternate formats as requested.
7. **Build the capacity of parents to support their child(ren)’s learning:** The school will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children’s achievement This will include two Family Reading Nights, a School Carnival and parent teacher conferences in the fall and spring. (Depending on Covid-19 Restrictions)
8. **Coordinate and integrate the school’s parent and family engagment programs with early childhood programs in the community and in the school:** To the extent feasible and appropriate, the Title l Director and Special Education teacher will work with the preschool program, and Head Start to conduct activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.
9. **Build the capacity of school staff to work with parents:** The school will work with the district Title1, Homeless and ELL programs to train and education staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, work with parents as equal partners and build ties between the parent and the school.
10. **A survey shall be used to assess the effectiveness of the parent and family engagement program:** Administrators and all families will be invited to respond. Results of the survey will be used to identify possible changes in parent involvement activities.

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