**PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY**

**Title I Schoolwide School**

The staff at Bell Fork Elementary believes educating our children should be a continuous collaboration between the home, school, and the community. To ensure parent and family engagement in the planning and implementation of the Title 1 program, the following activities will be implemented at Bell Fork Elementary.

**Written Policy**

Bell Fork Elementary staff members, parents and families will jointly develop a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy to be distributed annually to parents and families of all children. This document will be distributed to parents and families by being sent home with students this year and being part of the school handbook in subsequent years. It will be shared at intake meetings for new students. Review of the policy will occur annually at the Spring Meeting with opportunities for input at the school throughout the spring.

Opportunities for Regular Public Meetings

Annual Fall Meeting and Annual Spring meetings will be held at Bell Fork Elementary

An Annual Fall Meeting will be held in conjunction with “Open House” to

* Inform parents and families about the school’s facilities and its Title I Schoolwide designation
* Inform parents and families of summary results of the prior year’s EOG Testing, if available
* Provide parents and families with an overview of the Title I Program
* Provide parents and families with information concerning parent and family engagement requirements, assessment data, school performance profiles, and forms or methods of measuring students’ progress.

The Annual Spring Meeting will be held in conjunction with another family event

* To evaluate and/or make improvements on current program or upcoming activities.
* To solicit input from parents and families in the design and implementation of the School Improvement Plan and Parent and Family Engagement policy for the upcoming year.
* To share overall preliminary EOG results, if available, and alert parents and families that individual reports, if available, will be sent home at the end of year in report cards.

**Regular Title 1 Parent Meetings**

Title I Parent Meetings will be held during the school year, usually in conjunction with literacy nights, to provide continued information, support and resources for all parents and families. Parents and families will be strongly encouraged to attend other school events and conferences, volunteer in classroom activities, and observe in the Title I program.

**Training Opportunities**

Training topics are determined by our needs assessment data and parent and family suggestions.

* Parents and families will be notified in advance of the scheduled activities.
* Parents and families may request additional meetings with staff members to address questions or comments.
* Instructional plans and assessment information will also be communicated to parents and families through newsletters, weekly planners, and teacher websites.
* Materials available for parent and family information and for use with their children will be available in the Title 1 office. The materials in this Center are available for circulation through a check-out and return log folder located with the resources

**Coordination with Other Programs**

We will meet our goals of establishing liaisons and maintaining communication with other school programs and other related external agencies and organizations through collaboration and coordination with individuals in those groups and through the following actions:

* Notifying parents and families of assistance from outside agencies, such as food banks, Salvation Army, church programs for assistance, recreation/sports/arts opportunities, Boy and Girl Scouts, Toys for Tots, the public library and summer programs.
* Inviting participation by adults from the community into school assemblies and programs with notification via flyers and social media.
* Enabling distribution of food donated by United Way to students who are in need.
* Supporting participation in school events sponsored by the library/media center, art, music, and physical education teachers at our school.
* Hosting College Students in need of field Experience and Teacher Interns from UNC-W and Coastal Carolina Community College in our classrooms and school to help prepare them as highly qualified teachers.
* Hosting Marines from 2nd Maintenance Battalion as volunteers for students
* Supporting the work of the Military Student Liaison.

**Opportunities for LEP and SWD Parents**

Once a need is identified, we will attempt to assist parents and families with limited English proficiency and parents and families with disabilities in the opportunity to participate in their children’s educational curriculum and environment.

* The EC Department provides Spanish versions of all forms and documents.
* All parents will be invited to participate on school committees.

**Coordination and Integrating Parent Involvement**

At Bell Fork Elementary, we coordinate our programs and activities with the following staff and programs to support parent and family participation in the education of their children:

* English Language Learners/EL District leaders
* School nurse, counselor, military liaison, social worker
* Public preschool