

Parental and Family Engagement Plan Guidelines

Mission Statement:

Breaux Bridge Junior High will educate all students to be academically successful and productive citizens in the community.

Statement of Purpose: The St. Martin Parish School Board recognizes that parental involvement is the key to academic achievement. The term parent refers to any caregiver who assumes responsibility for nurturing and caring for children, including parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, foster parents, stepparents, etc. Studies demonstrate that when parents are involved in their children's education, the attitudes, behaviors, and achievement of students are positively enhanced.

Parents and families provide the primary educational environment for children; consequently, parents are vital and necessary partners, with the educational communities, throughout their children's school career. Although parents come to the schools with diverse cultural backgrounds, primary languages, and needs, universally all parents want what is best for their children. Parental involvement must be a focus in the classroom if schools are to be able to achieve high academic standards and create productive citizens. Schools in collaboration with parents, teachers, students and administrators, must establish and develop efforts that enhance parental involvement and reflect the needs of students, parents, and families in the communities which they serve.

In order to meet these expectations, the Parental and Family Engagement Plan for **Breaux Bridge Junior High School** will address the following standards from all directions including school to family, family to school, community to school and school to community:

Standard One: Communication with parents and families:

- Encourage and promote a sense of care and concern for physical and emotional safety, and the health and well-being of students, staff, and parents.
- Establish systems of communication that will ensure that all information about policies, procedures, and expectations are available to all parents.
- Provide information and guidance on: understanding standards, curriculum, and assessments
- Hold conferences and home visits as arranged by the district or school or as requested by parents based on student individual needs.
- Conduct surveys for students, parents, and communities to provide responses to school programs, policies, practices, and share information and concerns about students on an annual or bi-annual basis.
- Provide additional opportunities for parents to provide responses to classroom teachers about the academic progress of students.

Standard Two: Parenting Skills:

- Hold school and community-based meetings to help parents understand school needs and expectations at different levels of the educational process.
- Establish and maintain partnerships with businesses, faith-based organizations, and community agencies in order to provide training on effective parenting skills.
- Assist parents in learning how to create conditions that support learning at home.
- Help parents develop more awareness of the need for literacy and learning in the home.
- Collaborate with and support programs that assist parents with health, nutrition, economic, and other family services.

- Empower parents to understand their role in establishing their children's boundaries, rules, and expectations.
- Identify and connect families of children with special physical and learning needs with resources to facilitate appropriate services.

Standard Three: Student Learning and Learning at Home:

- Provide teacher training on the value of parent involvement at home.
- Utilize parent/school contracts/compacts to support shared responsibility for student learning.
- Provide information about content knowledge, skills and expectations in all subjects and at all grade levels. - Provide training on how students will be evaluated.
- Share information on how the school accommodates differences in learning.
- Share information on how the school addresses transitions from preschool programs to elementary education programs, middle school to high school, and high school to post graduation activities.
- Share information on the kinds of projects and assignments in place to help students meet higher academic standards.
- Provide training on how to discuss and monitor schoolwork and homework.
- Provide resources for parents that need additional support for assisting students at home.
- Sponsor family nights with a content focus at varied times throughout the year.
- Provide parent training on how to work with their children in goal-setting and planning for college or work.

Standard Four: Volunteering

- Create a welcoming physical environment for family members visiting schools.
- Encourage parent participation in community-service, service-learning, field-trips, and project-based learning types of learning activities.

Standard Five: School Decision Making and Advocacy:

- Train staff and parents/caregivers in leadership, problem-solving, conflict resolution, and decision-making skills.
- Have appropriate representation of parents/caregivers on various committees of school and district governance and improvement.
- Seek input, feedback and support from families by a variety of methods to get input about school and district policies, curricula and programs.
- Include parents in reviewing/revising the school Parent Involvement Policy & reviewing and contributing to Parent Involvement funds.

Standard Six: Collaborating with the Community

- Provide information for students and families on community health, cultural, recreational, social support, and other programs or services.
- Provide information on community activities that link to learning skills and talent development opportunities, including summer programs for students.
- Coordinate service integration of school in partnership with businesses, civic, counseling, cultural, health, recreation, and other agencies and organizations.
- Provide opportunities for community service and service learning as a pathway to enhance involvement with community by students, families, and schools.
- Work with local businesses, industries, and community organizations on programs to enhance students' skills and family involvement.