

**Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Sheridan Hills Elementary
2020 – 2021**

Sheridan Hills is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every child in this school. To this end, we want to establish partnerships with parents and with the community. Everyone gains if school and home work together to promote high academic and linguistic achievement by our children. Neither home nor school can do the job alone. Parents play an extremely important role as children’s first teachers. Their support for their children and for the school is critical to their children’s success at every step along the way.

Part I: School Family Involvement Policy Components

Required Activities	Sheridan Hills will:	Date(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jointly develop/revise with parents the school parent involvement plan and distribute it to parents and make available to the community. 	<p>Utilize a variety of opportunities to get parent input for the parent involvement plan throughout the school year. This will include PTO meetings, parent surveys, informal conversations, and Outreach Worker efforts.</p> <p>Post the school parent involvement plan on the website and include the link to the plan in the Sheridan Hills Family Handbook.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>August - September</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convene an annual meeting to inform parents of their school’s participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved. 	<p>Post video that provides an overview of the school-wide Title 1 program at Sheridan on the school website.</p> <p>Email all parents the link to the video</p>	<p>September 2020</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer a number of flexible meeting options, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, interpreting, translations, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement. 	<p>1) Host monthly or bi-monthly PTO meetings in the evenings to promote family and student activities. All parents are invited to attend.</p> <p>The frequency and format for meetings may be adjusted based on COVID restrictions.</p> <p>2) Provide ongoing opportunities for parents to provide input and to learn about the school. This will include support from the Outreach Worker, surveys in the fall and spring, and informal opportunities during school events to connect with parents.</p> <p>Childcare is provided for PTO meetings and other events as needed.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>PTO meets on the 2nd Monday of the month</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school plan 	<p>Provide a summary of the School Improvement Plan in both English and Spanish on the website. The full plan will also be available on the website and in hard copy as requested.</p>	<p>September 2020</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide parents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Timely information about programs under this part; b. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic and linguistic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and c. If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as possible. 	<p>Provide information using the following methods of communication:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information giving during fall/winter conferences 2. School/ Teacher newsletters 3. Teacher websites 4. Ongoing and regular communication utilizing notes, phone calls, emails, student planners, and home-school communication logs. <p>In addition to regularly scheduled conferences, teachers are available to meet with parents if a parent requests additional meetings.</p>	
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Part II: Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement

Required Activities	Sheridan Hills will	Date(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, staff and students will share responsibility for improved student academic and linguistic achievement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Conduct a parent/teacher conference in elementary schools, annually (at a minimum), during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's academic and linguistic achievement; b. Provide frequent report to parents on their children's progress; c. Provide parents with reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class. 	<p>Use the district created school-parent compact and share it with parents.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The school-parent compact will be shared with parents at the fall conference in October. If parents do not attend their student's conference, a copy will be sent home with the student. b) Parents will receive formal progress reports at the end of each trimester. In addition, parents are encouraged to call their child's teacher if they have concerns or questions about their child's progress. c) Teachers regularly reach out to parents through phone calls, emails, and notes. Parents are asked to volunteer on field trips, in classrooms, and as part of family or PTO special events. They are also encouraged to participate in classroom or grade level based special events. 	<p>Conferences - October - February</p> <p>Reporting is ongoing</p>

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Part III: Building Capacity Requirements for Parent and Family Engagement

Required Activity	Sheridan Hills will	Date(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School and local educational agency shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Provide assistance to the parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state’s content standards and state academic and linguistic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, and how to monitor a child’s progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children; b. Provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children’s academic and linguistic achievement, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement; c. Educate staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school; d. Coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities, to the extent feasible and appropriate; e. Ensure that information is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand f. Provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this as parents may request. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Provide parent education sessions through individual seminars and PTO meetings that address identified areas. Parents are also encouraged to participate in district level parent organizations to increase their knowledge of district programs and provide input. b) Ensure that teachers regularly provide parents with resources to support their child’s learning at home. Depending on the grade level this may take the form of a monthly calendar with suggested activities, or activities specifically tailored to meet the needs of an individual child. Teachers work with parents during Parent-Teacher conferences to identify areas of need and ways parents can support their child’s learning at home. c) Provide ongoing professional development at both the district and school level to increase staff’s abilities to build positive relationships with parents. d) Continue to have PreK parent educators work with families throughout the school year to support PreK parents in the education of their child. At the district level, ECFE courses are offered to support families. Continue to employ a Family Outreach Worker to support and increase parent involvement. e) Continue to translate all materials that are sent home into Spanish. Phone calls regarding school events are also made in Spanish to families identifying Spanish as the home language. Support is also provided to Somali families through the district’s Somali Outreach Worker. f) Ensure that school staff are available to respond to parent requests for additional support. This includes academic intervention staff, 	<p style="text-align: center;">Ongoing</p>

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<p>g. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation, interpreting, translations, and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and trainings sessions.</p> <p>h. Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.</p> <p>i. Arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conference at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation.</p> <p>j. Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.</p> <p>k. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.</p>	<p>administration, family outreach worker, office staff, school nurse, school social worker, and special education support staff.</p> <p>g) Receive funds from the district to support parent involvement. This includes transportation and child care services, interpreting and translation services.</p> <p>h) Provide a Family Outreach Worker to engage with parents of underrepresented populations to increase their level of involvement by identifying and supporting parent leaders. In addition, parents are encouraged to participate in leadership opportunities through the PTO.</p> <p>i) Continue to explore ways to offer parent meetings at a variety of times. Home visits are currently offered in some situations, but not all. Additional professional development and resources are needed to expand on home visits.</p> <p>j) Have parents provide input and advice regarding parent/family engagement and the overall school program through the PTO. In addition, the Principal and other staff work with the Family Outreach Worker to connect with families that are typically underrepresented.</p> <p>k) Continue to work to further develop community-based and business support for parent involvement activities. There are some partnerships already in place through the PTO. The Family Outreach Worker continues to secure new partnerships.</p>	
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Part IV: Accessibility Requirements

Required Activities	Sheridan Hills will	Date(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand. 	Through the support of the school based Family Outreach Worker and district level community liaisons, Sheridan Hills works to support parents through both written and verbal communication in their home language.	Ongoing

Part V: Adoption

This Sheridan Hills Parent and Family Engagement Policy was developed using survey information, notes from meetings held prior to school closure due to COVID, and informal discussions with staff and administration.

The Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be in effect for the period of 2020-2021 school year. The school will distribute this Parent and Family Engagement Policy to all parents of and make it available to the community on or before September 30, 2020.

Signature of Title I Authorized Representative: *Nancy Stachel*
 Printed Name of Authorized Representative: Nancy Stachel
 Date: 8/18/2020

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