



Dayton’s Bluff Achievement Plus Elementary School

262 Bates Ave
 St. Paul, MN 55106
 651-293-8915 | daytonsbuff@spps.org

2023-2024 Family Engagement Plan

School Introduction

Our richly diverse neighborhood school is next to Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center on St. Paul’s East Side. As an Achievement Plus school, Dayton’s Bluff is a full-service community school that focuses on raising student achievement. Our school and community partners work together to provide resources that help students and families continue to succeed. Collaboration with our community partners gives us many on-site resources including: assistance with basic needs, after-school programming, mentoring, dental services, and mental health services. Students at our school are encouraged to ask questions, solve problems and discover how things work. Our instructional coaches help students understand their skill level and learn how to monitor their academic growth. With classes in science, music and physical education, each child receives a full day of learning through core academics and other activities.

Mission Statement

The Dayton’s Bluff Achievement Plus community works as a team to provide a caring, consistent, and rigorous environment for all.

The Family Engagement Plan (FEP) is organized into four impact areas. We will be working together this year to build positive and goal-oriented relationships in each area. Families and staff at school developed this plan together.

Welcoming Environment	
<p>Our school has staff member(s) available for families to discuss this plan and ask questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Principal: Amanda Musachio ● Partner Liaison: Cindy Torguson
<p>Our school communicates with families in many ways.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School-wide monthly newsletter goes home to families. ● The “Home and School Connection” folder is sent home every Thursday with flyers and other family information. ● Classroom teachers will communicate with parents through monthly newsletters, email updates, phone calls, text messages, Seesaw, Schoology or other preferred parent communication methods. ● Parents will receive information about our Achievement Plus full-service community school throughout the year: what it means, community partners, events, and how on-site support and services may be accessed. ● Families will be given advance notice in a variety of ways for upcoming school events, such as: invitations, save the date notices, automated phone calls or text messages, and flyers. ● Phone calls and other communications will be available in other languages ● When families call, email, or send a note, we do our best to respond within 24 hours.

<p>The achievement gap, or rather the “opportunity gap,” between students of color and white students in Saint Paul Public Schools is unacceptable. Our school is working to change practices and systems by identifying the barriers that make it harder for students of color to succeed and for their families to support their learning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● For more about our work on racial equity, contact: ● Amanda Musachio, Principal ● Equity team meets bi-monthly ● We actively recruit a racially conscious and diverse staff. ● Student Assistance Team – School Counselor ● Achievement Plus partnerships including surveys, community opportunity assessment, and Mental Health supports
<p>Transitions between schools can be challenging, and we work to help families as their children start and leave our school.</p>	<p>For new students and families, we support the transition by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Offer school tours ● Provide families with information about Achievement Plus and on-site partners ● Home visits ● Calls home to check-in with families ● All school Open House ● Provide opportunity to meet the teacher <p>For students and families moving to the next school in their pathway, we support the transition by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Middle school presentations ● How to use school lockers and combination locks ● How to read a class schedule ● How to read a map to navigate ● Work on navigating a middle school website to find needed information ● Goal setting ● Organization ● Study skills ● Middle school leadership opportunities ● Q & A around what students are excited or nervous about ● School-wide expectations

<p align="center">Family Partnerships</p>	
<p>Our school-parent compact establishes the shared responsibility for student success between the school, families, and students. Families and teachers work together to develop the compact.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parents will receive compacts at Open House and Fall Conferences. ● Compacts are available in the Parent Information section of the office conference room. ● The compact will be updated: Spring of 2024
<p>There are many opportunities for families to build connections to the school and to each other.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Title I Annual Meeting where we will share information about school programs ● Begin building relationships with parents in the first 6 weeks: Home visits as needed or requested, reach out to families via phone during opening week and again in the third week of school. ● Open House for current and new families ● Parent/Teacher conferences

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Family events, such as: Ice Cream Social, Fall Festival, School Carnival ● Events and other activities will be held at various times throughout the school year to accommodate families. ● Parents are encouraged to volunteer at school or during school events ● DB Connects - meeting with parents and some school staff to build relationships with families ● Monthly lessons recognizing culture, race, and ethnicity
We work to make these meetings and events available for every family in the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All information is sent home with translation instructions for all languages ● All school events and meetings offer transportation and a light meal or snack ● Hmong, Spanish, and Karen translators are on site daily. If another language translator is needed we will accommodate.
Our school supports families as advocates and provides opportunities for parent leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parents are encouraged to contact their child's teacher with concerns about student learning. This can be done by email, phone, meeting, text, etc. ● The principal is also available to address parent concerns ● Have parents provide staff PD and/or input on staff PD ● Continue having a parent room for parents that stop by during the school day; including parent information, newsletter, partner services, etc. ● Parent meetings to discuss and plan school improvement, family engagement and compacts. ● Provide parent training on rules and expectations used when volunteering with students. ● Parents and partners are invited to participate in school committees

Teaching and Learning	
Our school shares information about state standards, assessment and student achievement with families in multiple ways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Report cards and progress reports will be distributed at conferences (Fall and Spring) ● Parent-Teacher conferences are held in November and March ● Parents will receive progress reports after benchmark assessments ● Family nights, such as, Curriculum night or Math and literacy night, which will provide parents with the tools needed to help their students excel in learning. ● Teachers will provide a consistent homework plan that teaches students the needed skills and habits. ● Grades 3-5 send reading goals home with families ● Pre and post math data will be communicated with parents (shared at conferences)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PreK-5 will use the Seesaw App or Schoology to invite families to see what their student is learning. Families will be encouraged to sign up for the Seesaw App or Schoology at Open House, other family events, and via home communications. ● Monthly video update from Academic team.
<p>Our school will engage in personalized learning as a key strategy to accelerate student achievement. Parents can get more information using many tools.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent log-in information can be accessed at spps.org/onestop or by contacting Angela Kutz in the school office. ● iPads – Information regarding iPads can be found on the school website or in the school office. ● Our school/teacher websites will contain links for students, such as: IXL, Tumblebooks, Schoology and/or SeeSaw, etc. ● Use flyers, emails and text messages to inform families about school happenings, events and opportunities.
<p>Many before- and after-school enrichment and support opportunities are available for students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Extended Day for Learning (EDL) ● Dayton’s Bluff Rec Center – Rec Check (Grades 1-5)

Community Partnerships	
<p>Our school develops community partnerships to provide additional support for students and their families</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cindy Torguson, Achievement Plus Partner Liaison, contact for partner resources and referrals. ● Achievement Plus Partners: ● Neighborhood House Family Center ● Wilder School Based Mental Health Services ● Children’s Dental Services ● St. Paul Parks and Rec – DB Rec Center ● Faith City Church/Storehouse Grocers ● East Side Health and Well-being Collaborative ● Lutheran Social Services

This plan is available as part of our school’s SCIP, or School Comprehensive Improvement Plan on our school website at daytonsbluff.spps.org, and printed copies are available in our parent room.