

## BLACK OAK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### TITLE I FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTION

#### **Obion County Schools Culture Statement:**

The Obion County Board of Education strives to maintain a good family and community involvement in the school system by keeping citizens informed about policies and procedures, involving citizens in planning, encouraging parents/community members to visit our schools, and promoting our system in the media.

#### **Black Oak Elementary School Culture Statement:**

Black Oak Elementary School is committed to make the school welcoming to all families, communicate effectively regarding student learning, support healthy development of all students both at home and school, and to collaborate with families and the community.

### GOALS OF BLACK OAK

#### **1. To create a welcoming environment on each campus.**

Strategies:

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#### DEVELOP PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

- Staff tour of school, give families and students information about the school, new student packet and student/family orientation
- Each teacher offers two times to meet with parents to explain various teaching methods and/or learning objectives and to provide educational information and resources for the parents
- Principal maintains an open-door policy
- Secretary greets all visitors in front office/sign-in and visitor tag for all visitors
- Grandparents Day breakfast annually
- Annual Open House at the beginning of each new school year

- Boo School in October-academic and specific subject matter information to all visitors
- Thanksgiving feast in the Black Oak Café-75 visitors in November
- Christmas feast in the Black Oak Café-50 visitors in December
- Easter meal in the Black Oak Café open to the public in April

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#### CREATE A FAMILY FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE

- Marquee outside to inform of upcoming events, school is clean and welcoming, entrances are clear and marked, signs to direct visitors to important places in the building, bulletin board welcomes all visitors to the building, all staff greets school visitors in a positive way in person and on the phone, user friendly phone menu

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#### PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER

- Parent and family volunteers can participate in reward days, field days, field trip chaperones, classroom parties and events, Christmas Store, local career fair, informational classroom visits, Parent Teacher Organization, Mentoring program, Book Fair, committee assignments
- Donations by community members and organizations for families in need

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#### RESPECT ALL FAMILIES

- Accommodate religious and family beliefs, practices, and values
- Provide information in all languages and written in a way for all parents to understand

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#### REMOVE ECONOMIC OBSTACLES TO PARTICIPATION

- Fees waived for programs, activities, etc. based upon economic needs, school supplies provided free of charge for all students, free breakfast for all students

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## ENSURE ACCESSIBLE PROGRAMMING

- Provide multiple opportunities for parents to attend meetings by ensuring early morning meetings as well as afternoon meetings, childcare provided during designated planned parent events

## 2. To improve family engagement in student achievement

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### PARENT-TEACHER COMMUNICATION REGARDING STUDENT PROGRESS

- Two parent teacher conferences during the school year to inform parents of their child's progress, report cards sent home every six weeks, agenda books for two-way communication, mid-six-week progress report sent home, parent portal, parent phone calls, updated calendar of events on district website, Black Oak Facebook page

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### LINK STUDENT WORK TO ACADEMIC STANDARD

- Progress monitoring reports for Tier 2 & 3, provide TN Ready test results and user-friendly interpretation, students copy standards and homework assignments in agenda books

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### USE STANDARDIZED TEST RESULTS TO INCREASE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

- Students are offered academic activities for a range of abilities through the Afterschool Program and after school tutoring
- Opportunities are given throughout the year to parents that relate to student needs, improvement, and enrichment

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### SHARE SCHOOL PROGRESS

- All call system, school and county wide student rewards, advertisement on radio, district and school websites; social media to include a Black Oak Facebook page, and display signs in the community

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### ENGAGE FAMILIES IN CLASSROOM LEARNING

- Schools are open to visitors during the school day and multiple parent involvement activities after school hours
- Classroom volunteer opportunities

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## DEVELOP FAMILY ABILITY TO STRENGTHEN LEARNING AT HOME

- Family projects, media for communication with classroom teachers, Parent Portal to monitor grades and absences
- Throughout the year, all teachers provide two educational workshops to inform parents of ways to increase student success, as well as, providing parents educational information and resources
- Families teach children the importance of education through meeting with teacher(s), communication of how student is progressing, check agenda books for homework assignments and academic standards, learn what the school offers, volunteer at school

### **Develop families' capacity for effectively communicating concerns**

- Parents and guardians can refer to the student handbook, school and district websites, and informational letters for appropriate ways to communicate and resolve conflicts

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## PROMOTE AFTER SCHOOL LEARNING

- Extended school program before and after school, after school tutoring, academic clubs, Obion County Health Department guest speakers
- Extension Office programming

### **Plan for student's future**

- Career and secondary education information & learning opportunities such as: Careers on Wheels, job shadowing, classroom lessons; tours of local high school, secondary education institutions and businesses
- Soft skills training for all 8<sup>th</sup> graders provided by Center Point and Obion County Chamber of Commerce grant

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## SMOOTH TRANSITION

- Orientation night for students and parents transitioning to different grade levels, visitation and tour opportunities for new students and their families, Obion County Central school counselors and principal meet with 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents to

discuss registering for high school classes and various opportunities at the high school level

### **3. To improve community communication and input into school system policies**

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#### **UNDERSTAND RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS**

- District and school policies are provided online, posted in the school building and areas in the community, and information is sent home with students throughout the year about community and state services
- Annual district Title I meeting is open to all parents

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#### **LEARN ABOUT COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

- Informational letters sent home with students, announcements, Facebook posts, and updates on the website, Coordinated School Health

#### **Organize support from community partners**

- Local businesses visit, present, and contribute through various methods

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#### **PARTNER WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS TO STRENGTHEN FAMILIES AND SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS**

- Local mental health agencies, businesses provide rewards/incentives for student success, provide mentors for our students
- Project BASIC for K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade students in partnership with Pathways who meet with students bi-weekly for classroom lessons

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#### **ADVERTISE MEETINGS IN NEWSPAPERS, ON RADIO STATIONS, AND ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE**

- Advertisement on all call system, newspaper, school Facebook site as well as district site

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#### **ARRANGE TO HOLD SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS AT EACH SCHOOL SITE AT A MINIMUM OF ONCE ANNUALLY**

- School board meetings are held monthly at different school sites so that each community has an opportunity to attend
- Showcase positive aspects of our school system/students in various ways at the school board meetings

**Additional information about the Obion County School District or any of the individual schools can be found on the district's website at [www.obioncountyschools.com](http://www.obioncountyschools.com).**