

2024-25 Family Engagement Plan

Our mission is to honor the legacy of Gordon Parks by providing pathways to graduation and opportunities for lifelong success.

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"> ● Family Liaison: Bob Andresen at robert.andresen@spps.org or 651-744-1212
<p>Our school communicates with families in many ways.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We distribute our FEP by posting the plan on the school website, including a summary in the orientation materials, and keep hard copies in the front office. ● We have created a GPHS Parent Compact and SCIP ● We send out Mass Communication calls, emails and text, as well as written letters and The Lens (virtual newsletter) as reminders of all school functions and events. ● We aim to provide a welcoming and friendly environment for all students, parents and visitors and do our best to respond to any inquiries 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 651-744-1212 ● Culturally responsive teacher training
<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"> ● Weekly orientation sessions for new students. <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"> ● Frequent meetings with counselor ● Senior cohorts ● Coffee Club for students nearing graduation.

Family Partnerships

<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"> ● Copies of the compact are available: offered at conferences and orientation, copies available in the front office of Gordon Parks, and on the Gordon Parks High School website ● The compact describes school and parent actions and highlights the importance of communication ● The compact will be updated with parent input: each spring
<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 held at Gordon Parks and Title 1 implementation, requirements and opportunities for parent engagement ● For those who cannot attend, we put the Powerpoint on our website ● Conferences held quarterly to provide parents with opportunities to speak with teachers about student progress and learn about curriculum Dates: 11/6, 1/16, 3/20, and 5/29. ● National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) will be on 2/12. ● School Facebook page
<p>We work to make these meetings and events available for every family in the school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We offer access to Hmong, Spanish and Somali translators at all conferences and upon request. ● We provide free transportation for parents who need support ● Each fall we have our Gordon Parks “kick off” event at Gordon Parks combined with the annual Title 1 meeting and other parent involvement activities
<p>Our school supports families as advocates and provides opportunities for parent leadership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If any parents have concerns about their child’s learning, they are encouraged to contact our front office where we direct them to their counselor and/or set up meetings with teachers ● Staff and families participate in the development of the SCIP and family engagement plans as well as receiving equity training. ● GPHS provides school wide Digital Citizenship training experiences. ● Frequent contacts from GP Connect teachers regarding school events.

Teaching and Learning

<p>Our school shares information about state standards, assessment and student achievement with families in multiple ways</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parents are encouraged to check the Parent Portal every 3 weeks to check grades. ● Parent-Teacher conferences held every quarter ● Student CLPs are handed out quarterly and printed upon request ● Parents invited to chaperone and attend all school events ● Orientation for new students overviews curriculum & state standard alignment ● Gordon Parks Legacy class (required for all incoming students) includes overview of GPHS curriculum from the past ● We blend teacher-originated curriculum with community stakeholder (including parents) originated curriculum. Planning for community curriculum occurs during quarterly outreach events
<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"> ● Schoology is used for assignments and grading throughout the term. ● Parent Portal login information is available by contacting: the school office, Bob Andresen or by going to spps.org/onestop ● Xello ● 1:1 iPad ratio ● Students participate in projects quarterly to earn credits in an alternative format.
<p>Many before and after-school enrichment and support opportunities are available for students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Early and late classes provide students with opportunities to earn additional credits. ● Students have the opportunity to earn independent study credits for experiences outside of the school day. ● Occupational Internships and Career Seminar classes available outside the school day to support students with jobs and allow them to earn credit.

Community Partnerships

<p>Our school develops community partnerships to provide additional support for students and their families</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student of the month ● Development of city community park: City of Saint Paul, Skyline Tower, Neighborhood, Trust for Public Land ● Connection with Rondo Land Bridge ● SoulTouch Productions
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This plan is available as part of our school's SCIP, or School Comprehensive Improvement Plan at spps.org/scip, is on our school website at Gordonparks.spps.org, and printed copies are available in the office.