

LONG VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN 2024-25

“Parental engagement is a powerful lever for raising achievement in schools. When parents and teachers work together to improve learning, the gains in achievement are significant.”

*Do Parents Know they Matter
(Harris & Goodall/University of Warwick, 2007)*

WHAT IS PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?

Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other activities, including that:

- Parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education.
- Parents are full partners in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child (i.e., Spring Data Retreat)

OBJECTIVES

1. Long Valley Elementary School will work to help parents and families feel safe and comfortable in our schools.
2. Long Valley Elementary School will implement researched strategies to increase parent and family involvement in their children’s education.
3. Long Valley Elementary School will inform and educate parents and families about the school curriculum and standards as well as the district and state assessments.

STRATEGIES

1. Increase the number of positive parent/family-teacher contacts, in-person or virtually.
2. Communicate & utilize the SD Family Engagement Toolkit (<http://doe.sd.gov/title/toolkit/>) and website.
3. Provide a family friendly environment open to ideas, suggestions and feedback from parents and on family and community engagement.

INFORMATION TO PARENTS

Long Valley Elementary School will provide families information at the fall Open House Event about our school wide Title I fund and how ALL students can benefit from the opportunities offered. Other information shared could include:

- Examples of how to help a child become a better student at home.
- Information on how to access Campus Parent Portal application (Technology application for parents to view student grades, attendance, specific assignments.)
- Title I participation and an explanation of the Parent and Family Involvement Plan.
- Information on the importance of the role of parents in a child’s education.
- Explanation of the School-Family/Parent compact.

This annual meeting will be convened to inform parents of the Title I Program and their right to be involved.

Other opportunities for families to be engaged in their children’s education include:

- Parent/Family-Teacher Conferences
- Monthly School Board meetings
- Classroom Special Events (i.e., grade Power Point presentations, Plays)
- Booster Club Meetings (Parents and staff are encouraged to attend.)
- Family Activity Nights or Events (i.e., Appreciation Days Participation, Book Fair,)
- Leadership Meetings (Spring of the year)
- Academic Celebrations (i.e., spelling contests, special games and trips)
- School Volunteering
- Active use of communication folders, notebooks, technology applications, and/or planners. (i.e., *Remind, Class Dojo*)
- Establishing a home routine to facilitate schoolwork at home (i.e., Homework and projects either online or offline).
- Suggesting and modeling reading and math practices in the real world.

Parents are always welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the plan at any time on the school district website or by submitting written or verbal comments to the school personnel.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Long Valley Elementary will host a variety of parent/family engagement events throughout the school year. Parents and family members are invited to participate in discussions to review the family engagement plan. Parents will also learn more about our curriculum in Literacy and Mathematics. (See [Student Resources page](#). Notices regarding these meetings will be sent home by flyer/website, post/class text applications, and/or Robocall to all parents in advance of the event.

The Long Valley Parent and Family Engagement Plan is posted on the district website as well as the Kadoka Area School District Facebook page. Copies of both district and school family engagement plans are available upon request at our district office as well as at each school. Parents and family members are invited to participate in discussions to review the family engagement plan at the Spring Data Retreat. Please contact district principal for schedules.

CURRICULUM/ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Kadoka Area Schools will follow the South Dakota State Standards in the development of the district's curricula. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school as well as forms of academic assessment used to measure progress and proficiency levels are available to parents through:

Parent/Family-Teacher Conferences	District/School meetings
Scheduled appointments	School website/Teacher websites
Newsletters and Calendars	Data Retreat events
Campus Parent Portal	Parents Resources on Webpage
School Board meetings	

BUILD CAPACITY OF SCHOOL & PARENTS FOR STRONG PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Long Valley Elementary will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and family members and to support a strong partnership among parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the above activities and programs. Resources from and involvement with the South Dakota Statewide Family Engagement Center and South Dakota Family Connection will be helpful in building capacity.

PARENTS

Long Valley Elementary School will work to help parents in understanding state and district academic/assessment information connected to their student's learning and progress. (see [PTA Resources](#)) We hold sessions for parents to gain knowledge about the challenging state academic standards –*South Dakota State Testing Consortium/South Dakota Science Assessments, local academic assessments such as NWEA MAPS*, as well as classroom *formative assessments* and any *alternative assessments* provided to any of our students.

Parents can trust the Kadoka Area School District to provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment. Our staff members have been trained to use specific research based instructional strategies and socio-emotional strategies that enhance learning. We will continue to review student results, teaching strategies, and leadership support in order to deliver optimal instruction for students.

Resources and materials are available to parents through the Parent & Family Engagement Toolkit which can be found at [South Dakota Department of Education](#).

Student/Parent/Teacher conferences will be held two times a year. Report Cards are sent home with students in the elementary, four times a year and two times a year in the middle school. Report Cards, and progress reports, are always available to parents upon request. Parents and students have access to all grades by checking the Infinite Campus Portal on the Kadoka Area School District website.

We encourage parents to become involved in their child's classroom activities by volunteering and participating in their student's class in and out of the physical school building. However, school visits provide an opportune time for parents to become acquainted with the school environment and staff members at Long Valley. Communication about best place and time for visits is important to ensure continued learning. Check with your student's teachers to make plans.

SCHOOL STAFF

The Kadoka Area School District is committed to train staff members to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and community. The KASD will host training for school staff that will focus on creating welcoming environments and improving two-way communication with families, specifically with the [SD Parent & Family Engagement Toolkit](#) and other resources available on the [SD Statewide Family Engagement Center](#) and the [SD Parent Organization](#) websites.

PARENT COMPACT

Long Valley Elementary School has jointly developed with parents, a School-Parent/Family Compact. This written compact identifies how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement.

COORDINATE PARENT INVOLVEMENT WITH OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS

The Kadoka Area School District will coordinate and integrate family engagement programs with preschool programs in the district including [Home-Based Youth and Family Services](#) and [Oglala Head Start](#). The district and school will provide parents with information that will help with transition from preschool to district schools and from school to school.

ANNUAL EVALUATION

Each year, the Kadoka Area School District will send home a survey for parents to provide input. The survey will contain questions related to the Long Valley school environment. Parents will be given the option to complete the survey via paper copy or electronically. The results of these surveys will be used to develop strategies for school improvement and to revise the district and school Parent and Family Engagement Plans. We will continuously review strategies and opt for more effective family engagement.

Each year in May, as part of our ongoing, comprehensive needs assessment, an annual Title One Data Retreat is held. Kadoka Area Schools will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement plan and family engagement activities to improve the academic quality of our schools. Long Valley Elementary team, including parents and Long Valley staff, are invited to participate.

ACCESSIBILITY

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the school administration will ensure full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children include providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.

The Kadoka Area School District will distribute this Parent Engagement Plan to all parents by way of school-specific handbooks. Access is also available on the district website's [Title One](#) page.