



2024-2025 Family Engagement Plan

School Introduction: Bridge View School is a federal setting 4, K-12, specialized special education school that serves the learning needs of students with severe and profound low-incident developmental disabilities. A highly dedicated, resourceful and caring staff creates a meaningful school experience designed around the unique learning needs of the students. Bridge View educates students with severe and profound developmental disabilities ages 5 through 18.

The students are the heart of the program. Special accommodations and modifications empower students to progress in the general curriculum. Students are prepared for post-school success in community involvement, work opportunities, job training and life skills. Bridge View is a one-story, barrier-free school. A caring and dedicated staff works closely with parents to set achievable goals.

We help students learn to communicate, make choices, understand the world they feel and see, and what they have the potential to be. All kids "fit in" and are welcome at our school because of the nurturing environment. Because of the many specialized services at Bridge View School, there are no barriers, only challenges that can be overcome.

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: Emily Velure
<p>Our school communicates with families in many ways.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Robo calls, weekly notes home, language line, parent preferred communication methods. Monthly family support groups, monthly family newsletter.
<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: Sue Bofferding, Assistant Principal <p>A cultural specialist was recently hired to work with all of our families, and in particular our Somali families.</p>
<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"> ● Hosting an Open House event during the week before the beginning of the school year. ● If requested, we offer year-round building tours and time to meet with staff for new students and their families. IEP teams connect with sending schools IEP teams for new students.

	<p>For students and families moving to the next grade band in our school, we support the transition by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Providing time for 5th-grade students to visit the Middle School classrooms. 8th-grade students get to visit High School classrooms, and our 12th-grade students have a transition period in the Spring to our Transition Program, Focus Beyond. School works closely with the county to help provide linkages and transitions to community supports.
--	--

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: In the front office ● The compact will be updated: annually, or as needed
<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 ● Regular parent meetings, family events, monthly assemblies, Annual Title 1 Meeting where we will share information about the school and its programming in November 2024. ● National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) will be on February 10, 2025, Multicultural Community Fair on October 29, 2024, and other annual cultural events ● Home Visits - Parent Teacher Home Visits as requested or needed. We have three classrooms (one in elementary, one in middle school and one in high school) that are prioritizing at least one home visit per student in the class to build stronger home-school partnerships.
<p>We work to make these meetings and events available for every family in the school.</p> <p>Staff also learn from parents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Describe the process for translation and interpretation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The district provides due process interpreters for IEP meetings, and also the language line used for daily interpretation needs between school and home. ○ Materials/communications sent from the district via blackboard can be translated into Spanish, Hmong, Somali and Karen. ● Bridge View will pay for taxi services to help families attend school functions if transportation is unavailable.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At most events and meetings, Bridge View provides Karen, Hmong, Somali, Spanish interpreters. We also have access to the Language line for other languages. ● Parent panels are part of staff PD so staff can learn more about how to work best with families.
<p>Our school supports families as advocates and provides opportunities for parent leadership</p>	<p>Principal provides opportunities to provide feedback at any time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If parents have concerns about their child’s learning, they can contact the teacher and /or the principal by phone, email or written note. ● Staff receive professional development about working with families through their Professional Learning Communities and through our professional development days throughout the year. Staff also participate in two family panels per year where families share their journeys of parenting a child with significant disabilities. ● Families are involved in planning for school improvement and family engagement during monthly parent groups in which the principal attends.

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"> ● Progress reports will be distributed by teachers quarterly, with the Individual Education Plan being one of these reports. ● Parent-Teacher conferences are held in November and March each year. IEP meetings are held annually to discuss student progress for academic goals. ● Core content classes are assessed informally and data is tracked after each academic lesson. In K-5 math is assessed by using the Kindergarten Math Baseline Assessment. Literacy is measured using the Literacy Benchmarks. Middle school uses the Equals assessment for math and Literacy Benchmarks are used for both middle school and high school for literacy assessment. High school also uses data from our First Steps Lab (work readiness) and data from worksite reports for students who are at worksites. MTASand Access tests are given and data is utilized for progress monitoring. ● An academic showcase is held each spring to showcase the academic skills and achievement of our students. Seesaw is a great resource for families to access student work.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monthly parent group is a place where families can ask questions and learn more about academics, support and our goals. ● Weekly notes home, give parents a chance to see what their students are working and there is an option to ask for a phone call or more information. Students offer input in their weekly communication home.
<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 asking the school clerk ● Parents can receive support in understanding iPad usage and Seesaw at school during our Conferences in November. ● Teachers use Seesaw to post pictures of students in the classroom working and activities they participate in throughout the school day. Extended learning opportunities may also be posted on Seesaw.

Community Partnerships	
<p>Our school develops community partnerships to provide additional support for students and their families</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Every Meal Program ● Field Trips for students across all grade levels include Belwin, Adapted Horseback Riding ● Weekly community outings for our high school program to various recreation and transition/daily living skill practice. ● Miracle League-all students are invited to participate in an adapted softball league that is facilitated by the St.Paul Saints and played on school grounds on Sunday mornings. ● Ramsey County Developmental Disabilities Services ● Autism Society of Minnesota ● Children's Hospital and Clinics ● Gillette Children's Hospital and Clinics-Complex Care ● Saint Paul Winter Carnival and Vulcans. ● MN Sinfonia ● Boy Scouts of America

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 bridgeview.spps.org, and printed copies are available in the office.