

## 24-25' WBLAS EQUITABLE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK + PLANNING TOOL

### **WBLAS Equity Commitment**

To nurture the whole student, we disrupt systemic inequities by recognizing, honoring, and embracing all cultures with humility and respect.

### **WBLAS Equitable Family Engagement Framework**

We will embrace all cultures with humility & respect by centering learning together. We will focus our work on a) Family Access & Empowerment, b) Culturally Responsive Resources & Practices, and c) Participation and Partnership.

### **Mission of Equitable Family Engagement**

To support the WBLAS Equity Commitment, WBLAS has committed to changing practices and systems to ensure that Family Engagement in the district is equitable. We believe that equitably partnering with families will have a measurable impact on student growth and academic achievement.

### **Vision of Equitable Family Engagement**

All WBLAS district Sites and Departments, in collaboration with families, will utilize the WBLAS Equitable Family Engagement Framework, and the Resource and Planning Tool to achieve each of the seven Goal Areas below which are aligned with current research, local data, and as identified by our families, staff, and students.

### **Seven Goals Areas of WBLAS Equitable Family Engagement:**

1. Relationship and Trust Building Between Families, Students, & WBL Staff is Prioritized
2. Families Exercise their Own Capacity to Advocate for Their Children in School
3. Staff Navigate Discomfort to Reflect upon their Perspective, Biases, and Assumptions to be more Culturally Responsive.
4. All Information supporting Student Growth and Success is shared consistently between schools and families.
5. Families and Staff engage in ongoing, meaningful two-way Conversations.
6. Collaborative Partnerships are created between Home & School.
7. Clear Expectations for school/family events exist, as well as resources for reaching those expectations equitably, and all school/family events are equitable.

For Additional Resources and Information Regarding WBLAS Equitable Family Engagement & Partnership Opportunities, please contact...

School Principal: Julian Stanke

School Equity Team Lead: Julian Stanke & Birch Lake Leadership Team

School Educational Equity Specialist: Nirvana Yang and Julie Vang

District Director of Equity & Achievement: Brenton Shavers     [brenton.shavers@isd624.org](mailto:brenton.shavers@isd624.org)

District Coordinator of Student, Family, Community Engagement: Briana Santoscoy     [briana.santoscoy@isd624.org](mailto:briana.santoscoy@isd624.org)

### **Goal 1: Relationship and Trust Building Between Families, Students, & WBL Staff is Prioritized**

**Best Practices:**We will host events such as Open House, Welcome Back Conferences, and etc. to welcome Families and Students back to school, to be responsive to questions, to set up communications expectations (how and when Staff will communicate with Families, and who Families can contact with questions during the year), and to offer resources up front.

We will offer flexible and meaningful opportunities for Family Involvement in Leadership, Volunteerism, and questions/concerns and feedback concerning their Student's education. All of our work around Equity will include family voice. We will use these opportunities to gain insight and to collaborate with families around decisions that impact them.

### **Goal 2: Families Exercise their Own Capacity to Advocate for Their Children in School**

**Best Practice:** We will share information pertinent to Student progress with Families on a regular basis, and will provide alternative ways for Families to receive this information if they do not have access to the internet or other forms of technology.

### **Goal 3: Staff Navigate Discomfort to Reflect upon their Perspective, Biases, and Assumptions to be more Culturally Responsive**

**Best Practice:** We will share and receive feedback from Students and Families about the Equity work we are focusing on to make sure it is accurate to the needs and gaps that exist in that school. We will share and will receive feedback during any and all family touch-points, and will especially work to partner better with families in communities we have historically marginalized.

### **Goal 4: All Information supporting Student Growth and Success is Shared Consistently between Schools and Families**

**Best Practice:** We will share Information with families in multiple ways, as necessary: email, robo-calls, website, and paper copies.

### **Goal 5: Families and Staff engage in Ongoing, Meaningful, Two-Way Conversations**

**Best Practice:** We will host one or more "Intentional Social Interaction" (ISI) events (large or small scale), or other types of events, where the intention/purpose is for Staff and Families to build relationships with each other while discussing topics pertinent to their Students' education.

### **Goal 6: Collaborative Partnerships between Home & School are Created**

**Best Practice:** Conferences: We will offer intentional conference appointments when interpreters are needed by a family to ensure that the Family/Staff have adequate time to converse, and we will ask families to fill out a form prior to conferences that helps them feel prepared with questions to ask and to ensure their voice (ideas, concerns, questions, hopes) is centered in the conference.

### **Goal 7: Clear Expectations for School/Family events exist, as well as Resources for reaching those Expectations Equitably, and all School/Family events are Equitable**

**Best Practice:** We will be flexible in order to respond to each Family's needs. (Flexible with meeting times and frequency, language needs, transportation needs, technology needs, communication preferences). We use the information in Synergy to determine each family's communication preferences (language, paper vs online, email vs phone, etc. We will utilize this information whenever possible throughout the school year, and will share with pertinent colleagues.