

School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Bellevue Elementary School
2024-25
October 16, 2024

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Bellevue Elementary receives Title I, Part A funds and must jointly develop with, agree upon with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the district.

Bellevue Elementary School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing and timely way, in the planning, review and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the targeted assistance or schoolwide program plan.
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of ESSA in an understandable and uniform format including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of ESSA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:
 - Parent and family engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
 - Parents play an integral role in assisting their children's learning;

- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their children’s education at school;
- Parents are full partners in their children’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their children; and
- Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of ESSA.

Required School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components

- The school parent and family engagement policy includes a description of how the school will implement or accomplish each of the following components:
- **Jointly Developed**
 Bellevue Elementary will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing and timely manner in the planning, review and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible. Opportunities to participate include, but is not limited to:
 - ❖ PTO meetings
 - ❖ Title meetings
 - ❖ A survey will be made available to parents so that input on the parent involvement policy and the improvement of parental involvement activities can be gathered.
- **Annual Title I Meeting**
 Bellevue Elementary School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school’s Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, parents’ requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact. .
 - The Title 1 meeting will be held before the first family event and again at parent teacher conferences.
 - *A. A parent meeting will be held to explain the role of the parent in the process of Title I review of services and improvement. Parents will be given all of the information to allow them the opportunity to give input on how Title I funds are spent and the services that their child’s school is offering.*
 - *B. The parent compact will be reviewed and filled out by the parents with the appropriate school personnel.*
 - *C. Information for parents will be provided on the school district website, twitter and in written communications home.*

- **Communications**

Bellevue Elementary School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- ❖ Timely information about the Title I programs;
- ❖ Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement; and
- ❖ Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

➤ Notifications will be provided the following methods:

- Newsletters
- Flyers
- Final Forms
- Website
- Facebook

- **School-Parent Compact**

Bellevue Elementary School will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and how the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards. Parents input will be requested at:

- ❖ PTO meetings
- ❖ Parent- teacher conferences

- **Coordination of Services**

Bellevue Elementary School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- ❖ Utilizing the District Social Worker to connect parents with resources, when needed
- ❖ Collaboration with the Bellevue Public Library for summer reading programs
- ❖ Involving the District Nurse

- **Building Capacity of School Staff**

Bellevue Elementary School will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and in how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school by:

- ❖ Attending District sponsored professional on the importance of implementing and supporting parent programs.
- ❖ Utilize professional development opportunities provided by North Point Educational Center
- ❖ Opportunities provided by the State Support Team
- ❖ School social worker will assist staff members in obtaining parent participation in school programs and trainings.
- ❖ The Elementary Assistant Principals will act as a liaison between school and parents, conducting parent and staff trainings

Bellevue Elementary School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- ❖ Hosting quarterly family engagement activities
- ❖ Encouraging parents to volunteer
- ❖ Watch DOGS (Dads of Great Students)

- **Building Capacity for Involvement**

The School Parent and Family Engagement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school, in meaningful consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of ESSA. Indicate which of the following discretionary (optional) parent and family engagement policy components the school will implement to improve family-school partnerships:

- ❖ Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- ❖ Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- ❖ Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- ❖ Train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents;
- ❖ Maximize parent and family engagement and the participation in their children's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home

conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school;

- ❖ Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent and family engagement; Establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs;
- ❖ Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.

- Watch DOGS (Dads of Great Students)
- One School One Book involving the whole community
- PTO
- Classroom volunteers
- The school will provide educational training opportunities for parents to provide strategies to improve student achievement and school performance.
- The school will provide family-centered events in which parents can participate in hands-on take-home activities to help their children improve student achievement at home.
- Provide parents with information on accessing materials to help their child improve in reading and math.