



Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Whidby Elementary School 2025–2026

School Year

Purpose

Whidby Elementary School recognizes that parent and family engagement is critical to student achievement and overall school success. This policy outlines the school's commitment to building strong partnerships with parents, guardians, and families, ensuring open communication, and fostering active participation in the academic and social development of all students.

Policy Statement

We believe that parents and families are essential partners in the educational process. We are committed to:

- Providing meaningful opportunities for parents to be involved in school activities, decision-making, and student learning.
- Building strong, respectful, and collaborative relationships with all families.
- Ensuring families have the tools, resources, and information necessary to support their child's academic success at home and school.

Annual Meeting

- An annual **Parent and Family Engagement Meeting** will be held to review this policy, the School–Parent Compact, and Title I program requirements.
- Families will have the opportunity to provide input, suggest changes, and ask questions about academic programs and school improvement plans.
- Meeting notices will be provided in multiple formats (flyers, emails, social media, phone messages) and the home language of families whenever possible.

Parent and Family Involvement Opportunities

Whidby Elementary will provide various opportunities for parents and families to engage in the life of the school, including but not limited to:

- **Open House and Meet the Teacher Night**
- **Parent Workshops** on literacy, math, STAAR readiness, social-emotional learning, and technology use
- **Family Engagement Nights** focused on academics, fine arts, and cultural events
- **Volunteer Programs** supporting classrooms, library, field trips, and special events
- **Parent Advisory Committees** and participation in the Campus Shared Decision-Making Committee (SDMC)

Communication with Families

- School communication will be timely, consistent, and accessible in families' preferred languages whenever possible.
- Families will receive regular updates through newsletters, campus website, social media, Parent Square, and teacher communication logs.
- Parent-teacher conferences will be held at least twice per year to review student progress and set academic goals.

Supporting Learning at Home

- Teachers will provide families with strategies and resources to support student learning at home.
- Academic resources (e.g., homework help, reading lists, math games, digital learning platforms) will be shared throughout the year.
- The school will host curriculum nights and parent workshops to explain grade-level expectations, STAAR readiness, and enrichment opportunities.

Building Capacity of School Staff

- Teachers and staff will receive professional development on effective communication and engagement strategies with families.
- Staff will be trained on cultural competency, family engagement best practices, and how to connect families with community resources.

Accessibility

- All family engagement activities will be held in accessible locations and at varied times to accommodate work schedules.
- Interpretation and translation services will be provided when possible.
- Materials will be made available in clear, jargon-free language.

Policy Review and Updates

- This policy will be reviewed annually with parent and staff input.
- Revisions will be based on feedback from families, staff, and community partners to ensure it remains relevant and practical.