



GRIMSLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

2025-2026

Parent & Family Engagement Committee: – Cristina Easterling - PTO President, Dr. Skyler Brown – GJHS Principal, Devonte Britt & Nicole Shockley - GJHS Assistant Principals, Lindsay Davis – GJHS Counselor, Gary Simmons, Alexa Reynolds, Amy Holland, Emily Smith, Kennedy Martsching, Lindy Wise, Anne Pequeno, Alex Powell

STANDARD I: Parenting

Parenting skills are promoted and supported.

To promote student learning, the school will offer support to parents by providing resources to improve parenting techniques and skills:

1. Provide parenting resources.
 - a. Promote and make available identified sources that promote responsible parenting. A brochure of resources is located in the main office, conference rooms and the counseling office.
 - b. Provide parents an opportunity to participate in various virtual and in person seminars, workshops and presentations on parenting.
 - c. Advertise and promote on the school website parenting resources & and parenting supports.
2. Promote parenting websites and toll free numbers to parents in both the parent information area, parent center, counseling center, and school website.
3. Plan and engage in other activities determined by the school to be beneficial to promoting and supporting responsible parenting.
 - a. School employees will recognize that there are a variety of parenting traditions and practices within the community's cultural and religious diversity.
 - b. Staff members will be encouraged to demonstrate respect for families and the family's primary role in the rearing of children to become responsible adults.
 - c. Inform parents of free parenting classes and workshops offered within the community and school system.
4. District social workers and school student advocates will assist and support families with parenting resources and needs.
5. GJHS will designate a certified staff member to serve as the parent and family engagement facilitator.

STANDARD II: Communication

Communication between home and school is regular, two-way and meaningful.

To encourage communication with parents, the school will:

1. Use a variety of communication tools to facilitate two-way interaction between parents and teachers that includes but are not limited to the following:
 - a. Daily announcements, email blasts, PeachJar, automated calls, Google Classroom, and the Home Access Center.
 - b. Social media - Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.
 - c. School webpage address that includes
 - Whom to contact and for what need
 - The school's parental & family engagement program
 - Information regarding PTO that includes events, volunteer opportunities and an application for membership
 - Volunteer opportunities for parents. PTO coordinates many activities for volunteers. PTO meetings will be held virtually until further notice. Meetings will begin at 9:00 am. Google meeting ID and password will be emailed to members and placed on student announcements the day preceding the meeting.
 - Email PTO at grimsleypto@gmail.com [Link to join GJHS PTO](#)

Meeting Dates:

September	4	Monthly PTO Meeting
October	2	Monthly PTO Meeting
November	6	Monthly PTO Meeting
December	4	Monthly PTO Meeting
January	8	Monthly PTO Meeting
February	5	Monthly PTO Meeting
March	5	Monthly PTO Meeting
April	2	Monthly PTO Meeting
May	7	Monthly PTO Meeting

9. Translate communications to assist non-English speaking parents when requested. The district will provide translators to assist non-English speaking parents at Parent/Teacher conferences, registration meetings, and all other meetings to enable parents to help their children improve their academic achievement and become active participants in the education of their children.
10. Communicate with parents regarding positive student behavior and achievement, not just regarding misbehavior or failure. Teachers will communicate via email, phone calls, postcards, notes, letters and conferences.
11. All teachers will use a website or Google Classroom to allow parents access to their child's classroom instruction and assignments to facilitate parents taking an active role in their child's education.
12. Provide opportunities for parents to communicate with principals and other administrative staff.
 - a. Email, conferences, virtual meetings/conferences, meet the teacher night, open houses and other school events.
13. Promote informal activities at which parents, staff, and community members can interact.
14. Provide staff development in the following areas:
 - a. Effective communication techniques and the importance of regular two-way communication between the school and the family
 - b. How parents play an integral role in student learning
 - c. How to value input from parents
 - d. How to communicate with families
 - e. How to build ties between home and school
 - f. How to welcome families into the school
 - g. How to provide info in a language families understand
 - h. How to effectively respond to parent requests
16. In an effort to assist in keeping parents informed, daily school announcements are placed on the school website. Parents can also sign up to receive daily announcements electronically.
 - a. Encourage parents to utilize the school website "PARENTS DIRECTORY" page to access information and assistance. [PARENTS tab school website](#)
18. The school may plan and engage in other activities determined by the school to be beneficial to encourage communication with parents.
 - a. Host orientation sessions for new students.

New to District Informational Meetings	Fall & Spring
Family Building Tours	July & August
 - b. Host "MEET THE TEACHER EVENING" so that parents can meet their child's teachers.

GJHS - Meet Your Teacher	August 2025
Virtual Tour of GJHS Virtual Tour of GJHS	
Back to School GRIMSLEY 101	July 2025

- c. Sponsor parent nights and meetings that address different components of junior high school, post-secondary or career education.

19. GJHS receives Title 1 funding. Title 1 funds are utilized to provide enrichment and promote growth for qualifying students. A special Title 1 event will be held for families of students receiving Title 1 services to inform them of the program's efforts along with their rights under Title 1.

Title 1 Family Night

September 2025

20. Signature forms will be collected indicating that parents have read the student handbook and parent and family engagement plan making sure that the parent fully understands how to resolve concerns.

STANDARD III: Volunteering

Parents are welcome in the school. Their support and assistance are valuable to the success of the school.

To welcome parents in the school, the school shall:

1. Not have any school policies or procedures that would discourage a parent from visiting the school, specifically including:
 - a. Policies requiring parents to pick-up their child outside the school building each day.
 - b. Policies prohibiting parents from visiting a child's classroom during school events.
 - c. Ensuring that office staff greetings, signage near the entrances and any other interaction with the parents create a climate in which parents feel valued and welcome.
 - d. Educating and assisting staff members in creating an inviting climate and effectively utilizing volunteer resources.
2. Establish volunteer policies and training for all volunteers.
3. Engage in other activities determined by the school to welcome parents into the school.
 - a. Volunteer and visitor name tags are available in the main office. They are easily accessible to parents entering the building.
 - b. The school will host a volunteer appreciation event to recognize and thank volunteers. Parents may be recognized at assemblies and on the school website.
 - c. A parenting welcome banner will be periodically hung on the outside and/or inside of the building to create a climate in which parents feel welcome and valued.
 - d. A conference room is available for PTO meeting space or activities. As needed, larger spaces can be reserved.

STANDARD IV: Learning at Home

Parents play an integral role in assisting and promoting student learning.

To help parents in assisting students, the school shall:

1. During Parent/Teacher conferences, and Open House or separate meeting, parents are given a report on the state of the school as well as an overview of:
 - a. What students will be learning
 - b. How students will be assessed
 - c. What parents should expect for their child's education
 - d. How parents can assist with and make a difference in his or her child's education
 - e. Special efforts will be made to notify parents of this presentation date
2. Provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment and engage in other activities determined to help a parent assist in the student's achievement including literacy and technology.
3. Encourage active participation in physical activities, workforce education, community activities, and volunteerism.
4. Ensure that parents are informed and involved in the district wellness practices including BMI protocol, foods allowed in the school setting, opportunities for physical activity, and suggested resources that are available which encourage healthy, active living, nutritious meal planning and meal preparation.
5. GJHS students holding an IEP will receive individual instruction plans with specific goals as necessary.

STANDARD V: Decision Making

Recognize that parents are full partners in the decision making process that affects his or her child and family.

To encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect his or her child and family, the school shall:

1. Publish the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define the problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions.
2. Sponsor seminars to inform parents how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selections, career planning, and preparation for post-secondary opportunities.
 - a. Parents are active partners in the annual SSP (Student Success Plan) Conferences where students discuss their career goal and select classes for the next school year.
3. Form a parent and family engagement advisory committee to share ideas, needs and desires for the school. Suggestions will be presented to the administrative team.
4. Treat parent concerns with respect and demonstrate genuine interest in developing solutions.

5. Engaging in other activities that the school determines will encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect his or her child and family.
 - a. Parents serve on the school improvement committee.

STANDARD VI: Collaborating with the Community

Recognize that community resources strengthen school programs, family practices and student learning.

To take advantage of community resources, the school shall:

1. Engage in other activities that the school determines will use community resources to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.
 - a. The school will seek support for students and parents by contacting the local businesses for coupons and prizes for activities and events.
 - b. Student organizations with the assistance of parents and teachers will provide service to non-profit agencies in the community.
 - c. Develop partnerships with local businesses and service groups.
 - d. Business & industry partners will be utilized during VITAL LINK, a program that allows 8th grade students to job shadow in the community for two days.
 - e. Student organizations with the assistance of parents and teachers will provide service to non-profit agencies in the community.
 - f. Provide a list of resources when needed to parents at any time.
 - g. Offer opportunities for families to explore “What’s Next” for their students in career studies pathways at Bentonville West High School through events like “BE PRO BE PROUD” showcase night highlighting high wage technical careers.

[GJHS Website](#)

Parent & Family Engagement Facilitator:

Lindsay Davis – Counselor
lidavis@bentonvillek12.org
479.360.7500