

# PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

## RE Baker Elementary



Our goal is for the staff of RE Baker Elementary to work collaboratively with family and community members to support student achievement. We aspire for all students to grow academically, socially, and emotionally. Our intent is to foster relationships with family and community members so they may participate in the educational process of students in any way they feel comfortable. Staff of RE Baker Elementary hope to connect with families in a variety of ways. To begin, teachers communicate regularly with families regarding student progress, ways to support students at home, and opportunities to participate in fun and educational events at the school. We also encourage family and community members to volunteer at school. We strive to create an environment where volunteers can interact with and support students directly. We also value and appreciate indirect support. We believe the partnership between families and staff is critical to student achievement and growth. As a school, we seek out new ways to engage and involve family and community members. If you are interested in supporting our mission of creating a strong school/family bond, please contact the counselor, Ashleigh Baxter, to get involved or share ideas. The school counselor can be contacted via email at [abaxter@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:abaxter@bentonvillek12.org)

We ask that all volunteers complete our volunteer confidentiality training. Volunteer training is offered several times throughout the school year. Our volunteer coordinator is Ashleigh Baxter. Anyone interested in volunteering may contact her directly at [abaxter@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:abaxter@bentonvillek12.org)

RE Baker Elementary is very fortunate to have an active and supportive Parent Teacher Organization. This group organizes many activities throughout the year to support teachers and students of RE Baker Elementary. Anyone who is interested in joining the PTO may contact the PTO Presidents at [r.e.bakerelementarypto@gmail.com](mailto:r.e.bakerelementarypto@gmail.com).

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:**

**Read to Students**

**Guest Speaker**

**Homeroom Parent**

**REB Gives Back**

**Field Day**

**Guardian in Action**

**Library/Book Fair**

**Lunch Buddy/Mentor**

**Classroom Parties**

**Special Events**



# PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

*RE Baker Elementary*

## STANDARD I: COMMUNICATION

**GOAL: COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL IS REGULAR, TWO-WAY, AND MEANINGFUL.**

**TO FACILITATE EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS ABOUT OUR SCHOOL PROGRAM AND CHILDREN’S PROGRESS:**

Each teacher/team will publish a weekly newsletter sent out in digital formats. Each teacher/team will communicate via e-mail regarding homework assignments as needed, and will e-mail individual parents when there are concerns. The administration will send out a monthly newsletter highlighting important dates, parent resources, and volunteer opportunities. Parents are encouraged to communicate with teachers on a continuing basis through e-mail. Staff will strive to respond to parent communication within one business day, utilizing a variety of platforms such as email or phone calls.

Student progress will be reported to parents on a regular basis. Kindergarten - 4th grade report cards will reflect the learning goals of the Common Core State Standards and the Arkansas Frameworks as required by the state of Arkansas. Grades assigned to students for performance in a course shall reflect only the extent to which a student has achieved the expressed academic objectives of the course. A standards-based report card (Kindergarten - 4th) will be issued every nine-week period.

*2. To encourage communication with parents, the school shall schedule no less than two (2) parent-teacher conferences per school year. Staff will be prepared for parent events by:*

RE Baker Elementary School will host two parent-teacher conferences during the school year, which will accommodate the varied schedules of adults and language barriers. Parents will be encouraged to share their child’s strengths and learning preferences and emphasize that parent-teacher partnerships will help assure their child’s future career goals.

The goal of RE Baker Elementary is to have 100% parent contact during parent-teacher conferences. Every effort will be made to reschedule and follow-up as needed with parents. The teacher, counselor, and/or an administrator will make home visits or phone conferences if a parent is unable to come to school to attend a conference.

*3. The school may plan and engage in other activities determined to be beneficial to encourage communication with parents.*

Every staff member’s e-mail address can be accessed through the district’s website.

Bentonville Schools has established a “Welcome Center” to better communicate with the parents of ESL students. The center will be available to all Bentonville Public School parents.



## REBE @ A GLANCE:

### August:

- 8/7 Open House K - 4th
- 8/12 First Day of School

### September:

- 9/1 No school Labor Day
- 9/12 Volunteer training @ 8:30 AM
- 9/12 PTO Meeting @ 8:30 AM
- 9/26 BASH
- 9/29-10/3 Scholastic Bookfair
- 

### October:

- Title I Night
- 10/10 PTO Meeting @ 8:30 AM
- 10/16-17 Fall Break
- Fall P/T Conferences
- 10/31 BASH
- 10/31 Fall parties

### November:

- 11/11 Veteran's Celebration
- 11/14 PTO Meeting @ 8:30 AM
- 11/24-11/28 Thanksgiving Break

### December:

- 12/12 PTO Meeting @ 8:30 AM
- 12/12 Santa Night
- 12/17 Staff Caroling
- 12/19 Winter parties
- 12/19 Bash
- 12/22-1/5 Winter Break



# PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

*RE Baker Elementary*

## Standard II: Parenting

**Goal: Parenting skills are promoted and supported.**

**To promote student learning, schools will:**

1. *Purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative material regarding responsible parenting through the school library, advertise current selections and give parents an opportunity to borrow the materials for review.*

The REBES Parent Center is located in the front office for parents and families. This center includes a lending library that provides information to parents on a variety of parent/family information and support materials including social/emotional learning.

2. *Create parent centers.*

Parenting resources will be available in the Parent Involvement Center to assist parents in working with their children. All materials are available for checkout.

The Parent Involvement Center will be a resource center to support parents and families with handouts regarding "Zones of Regulation," breathing strategies, and character education.

A "School & Community Resource Guide" of nonprofit and private community referral sources for families seeking resources outside of the school and families in crisis will be disseminated as needed.

RE Baker Elementary will provide parents and families with information on developing home environments that support learning.

3. *Plan and engage in other activities determined by the school to be beneficial to promoting and supporting responsible parenting.*

RE Baker Elementary will offer events and resources throughout the year for parents to learn more about how they can support their students at home.



## REBE @ A GLANCE:

### January:

- 1/8 PTO meeting 8:30 AM
- 1/19 MLK Day
- 1/30 BASH

### February:

- 2/13 Volunteer training @ 8:30 AM
- 2/13 PTO Meeting @ 8:30 AM
- 2/13 Valentine's Day parties
- 2/16 President's Day
- 2/26 BASH

### March:

- 3/12 PTO meeting @ 8:30 AM
- 3/13 BASH
- 3/20 Staff Development No School
- 3/23-3/27 Spring Break

### April:

- Spring P/T Conferences
- 4/9 PTO Meeting @ 8:30 AM
- 4/27 Staff Development No School
- 4/30 BASH

### May:

- 5/12 Volunteer Appreciation
- 5/13 REB Senior Walk
- 5/15 Kindergarten Celebration
- 5/22 BASH
- 5/22 Fun and Field Day
- 5/25 Memorial Day
- 5/27 Students Last Day



# PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

RE B Elementary

## Standard III: Student Learning

**Goal: Parents play an integral role in assisting student learning.**

**To help parents in assisting students, RE Baker Elementary and/or the District shall:**

Parents will be informed of standards being taught and assessment methods through monthly meeting opportunities.

Parents are encouraged to attend the school's BASH Assemblies to celebrate excellence, improvement, and citizenship with their child.

Staff development for teachers during the school year will focus on successful approaches to engaging parents in their child's education.



## Standard IV: Volunteering

**Goal: Parents are welcome in the school, and their support and assistance is sought to organize volunteers to support and assist, RE Baker Elementary shall:**

1. *Have policies and procedures that encourage parents to visit school, specifically including:*

- a. Policies requiring parents to pick-up his/her child outside the school building each day; and
- b. Written procedures allowing parents to visit their child's classroom during school events;
- c. Ensure that the office staff greetings and signs near the entrances and any other interaction with the parents create a climate where parents feel valued and welcome.

2. *PTO & the Parent Involvement Coordinator will work together to coordinate those who wish to volunteer at our school by:*

- a. Sending out a volunteer form letter that outlines the many ways a parent can volunteer.
- b. Determine how frequently a volunteer would like to participate, including the option of just one (1) time per year;
  - i) Include options for those who are available to help at home;
  - ii) Use the volunteer form to help match school needs with volunteer interests.
  - iii) Training will be provided for parent volunteers regarding school protocol, routines and procedures, volunteer expectations and equipment usage.

Statements attesting to RE Baker Elementary's commitment to parental involvement will be published in the school newsletters and other written material to be distributed to all parents regularly throughout the school year.

3. *Engage in activities determined by the school to welcome parents into the school, such as:*

- a. Workroom volunteers, sign in through the office
- b. Tutoring, mentoring, helping at parties
- c. School marquee will be used to welcome, inform, and show appreciation to parents

## VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Ashleigh Baxter  
 R.E. Baker School Counselor  
 Parent Involvement Coordinator  
[abaxter@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:abaxter@bentonvillek12.org)  
 479-254-5727



# PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

*RE Baker Elementary*

- e. Provide training for parents to become effective volunteers
- f. Provide a welcoming atmosphere that is friendly and encourages volunteerism.

### **Standard V: School Decision Making and Advocacy**

**Goal: Recognize that a parent is a full partner in the decisions that affect his or her child and family.**

**To encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect his/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 (school handbook)
2. Formation of PTO to identify and respond to issues of interest to parents
3. Engage in other activities that the school determines will encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect his/her family.
4. Parents at R.E. Baker Elementary are given surveys for their ideas and input on various school decisions.
5. Develop clear and understandable procedures that enable all to participate
6. Treat parent concerns with respect and demonstrate genuine interest in developing solutions

### **Standard VI: Collaborating with the Community**

**Goal: To recognize that the community resources strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.**

**To take advantage of community resources, RE Baker Elementary shall:**

1. Engage in activities that the school has determined will utilize community resources to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.
2. R.E. Baker Elementary will utilize business and community resources to provide school supplies and clothing for needy children.
3. Participate in the following programs for children: Bright Futures; REB Gives Back; Clothed with Compassion; Caring and Sharing; Samaritan House Snack Pack Program, and other community programs.
4. Utilize the expertise of community members and invite them to be guest speakers for teacher in-services, and in the classroom.
5. We will welcome and transition military-connected children and coordinate any additional services needed with the state military liaison.



## PARENT FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN JOINTLY CREATED BY THE FOLLOWING TEAM

### MEMBERS:

**Nick Lyons**  
Principal

**Kim Green**  
Assistant Principal

**Ashleigh Baxter**  
School Counselor

**Salena Lowery**  
Tiffany Sorren

**Katie Alderige**  
Parent

**Tom and Ruth Hough**  
Volunteers

### **REBE School Leadership Team**

- Jessica Carson- Kindergarten
- Natalie Szymczak- 1st grade
- Jamie Deigh- 2nd grade
- Alli Pinto- 3rd grade
- Erin Phelean- 4th grade
- Kelly Pope- Specials
- Lena Tomlinson- Special Education
- Blair Ballard- Literacy Coach
- Cheryl Queen- Math Coach

