



**BENTONVILLE SCHOOLS**


WHERE EXCELLENCE LIVES

# EVENING STAR ELEMENTARY



## PARENT-FAMILY ENGAGEMENT 2025-2026

ASHLEY WILLIAMS, PRINCIPAL  
9649 HAXTON ROAD  
BENTONVILLE, AR 72713  
479-360-7400



EVENING STAR ELEMENTARY

# PARENT-FAMILY ENGAGEMENT 2025-2026

At Evening Star Elementary, we believe family engagement is a critical component to the success and growth of all students. The six standards below outline our school goals to promote a safe, healthy and effective partnership between ESE and our families.

## STANDARD 1: COMMUNICATION

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

To conduct effective communication from school to home and from home to school about school programs and children's progress, ESE will:

### 1. Prepare informative emails to parents including:

- A parent input survey on student's interest, needs, and personality.
- A parent input survey on core beliefs, mission, and vision for ESE.
- A parent survey regarding parent's interest in volunteer opportunities at ESE.
- Parent involvement opportunities including PTO membership, volunteer opportunities in and out of school.
- Events planned throughout the year such as K-4 Meet the Teacher Night, Walk In My Shoes Night, Spirit Nights, and P/T Conferences.
- A system to encourage two-way communication between ESE and parents which includes phone, email, Seesaw messages, and conferences.
- Opportunities to connect to social media accounts.

**2. To encourage communication with parents, ESE will schedule no less than 2 in-person parent-teacher conferences per school year.**



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# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

When volunteering in the building, we will offer a wide variety of volunteer opportunities to fit any schedule:

- Resource Volunteer
- Wise Owl Guest Speaker
- Wise Owl Guest Reader
- ESE Parade Team
- Field Trip Chaperones
- Non-profit/ Community Service Owls
- ESE Gives Back
- School Event Volunteers (Field Day, Walk In My Shoes, Pie Supper, etc.)
- Guardians in Action

## PLUS MANY MORE!

To find out more, or to sign up, please call our office at (479)360-7400.

### 3. Plan and engage in other activities determined to be beneficial to encourage communication with parents such as:

- Provide clear information about skills assessments, report cards, and how grades are earned.
- Send home digital school newsletters and class newsletters.
- Send home information via Seesaw and Google Classroom.
- Notify families regarding student academic or behavior concerns, as well as positive feedback regarding these areas.
- Develop, foster, and promote a responsive open-door policy.
- Promote informal activities at which parents, staff, and community may interact (i.e. Spirit Nights).
- Provide clear and specific information by using language that is understandable to all parents in a multi-method approach (newsletter, website, social-media platforms, and report cards).
- Translate communications to assist non-English speaking parents as much as is feasible.
- Provide parenting information and tips via Facebook, school and district's web page.
- Provide school counselor updates and contact information to foster trusting relationships.
- Provide information regarding social-emotional curriculum and counseling services.





## STANDARD 2: PARENTING

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

To help parents in assisting and participating in their child's education, ESE shall:

**1. Create a resource page for parents to find useful information, helpful websites, and other literature.**

- Offer access to our Family Center located just inside our front entrance.

**2. Plan and engage parents in other activities determined by the school to be beneficial to promoting and supporting parent educational involvement and assist in his or her child's learning, such as:**

- Digital newsletters sent electronically per classroom and/or school.
- School website links to resources (educational and parenting).
- Provide families with information on child and adolescent development (Home and School Connections Newsletter on Peachjar).
- Communicate with parents in an ongoing manner, using diverse methods, which reflect a respect for parental and cultural differences.
- Provide parenting workshops to enhance parenting skills when requested by parents.

## STANDARD 3: STUDENT LEARNING

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

To help parents in assisting and participating in their child's education, ESE shall:

**1. Host an Open House and Walk In My Shoes event where parents can learn about curriculum, expectations, and strategies to support students in their learning at home.**

**2. Provide high quality instruction linked to Arkansas State Standards.**

- Teachers work directly to use research-based instructional methodologies in their classrooms.
- All certified staff of Evening Star will participate in 36 hours annually of Professional Development training.





**3. Provide alternative methods for diverse student's needs (differentiated instruction).**

**4. Provide intervention or enrichment based on classroom instruction to promote growth for all students.**

## **STANDARD 4: VOLUNTEERING**

**Goal: Parents are welcome in the school. Their support and assistance is sought.**

To organize volunteers to support and assist, ESE shall:

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

- Written procedures allowing parents to visit their child's classroom when such visits add to the learning or culture of the classroom (ie., Mystery Readers, interviews relating to content).
- Ensure that teachers and parents are well connected digitally via Seesaw and other social media platforms serving as windows to our classrooms.

**2. Encourage staff to use the volunteer surveys to compile a volunteer resource book listing the interests and availability of volunteers so that school staff may:**

- Determine how frequently a volunteer would like to participate, including the option of just one time per year.
- Include options for those who are available to help at home.
- Match school needs with volunteer interests.

**3. Engage in other activities, determined by the school or PTO, to connect parents to the school (Gives Back, BoxTops, various PTO committees).**

## **STANDARD 5: SCHOOL DECISION MAKING AND ADVOCACY**

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

To encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect their children, ESE shall:

- 1. Include in the school's policy handbook the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions.**
- 2. Engage in other activities that the school determines will encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect their children and family.**
- 3. Assist in the formation of PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) to identify and respond to the issues and interests of our parents.**
- 4. Provide parents with current information regarding school policies, practices, and both student and school performance data (newsletter).**

## **STANDARD 6: COLLABORATING WITH THE COMMUNITY**

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

To take advantage of community resources, ESE shall:

- 1. Utilize business and community resources for school supplies and clothing for students in need through our Gives Back Program.**
- 2. Enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Organization that will foster parental and community support and partnership within the school.**
  - ESE will respond to the educational and personal success challenges military-connected children face during their transition to a new school and keep them on track to be college, workforce, and life-ready. Also, we will coordinate any additional services needed with the district and/or state military liaison.

- 3. Engage in activities that the school determines will use community resources to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.**





# EVENING STAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EVENTS

As one of Bentonville's newest Elementary Schools, we often think about the traditions we hope to establish for our students, families, and community. We have many events we are looking forward to this year, and are excited to see this list grow! Please consider these dates as **tentative** and watch for detailed information as we get closer to an event date.

## 2025-2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### AUGUST

Open House grades K-4 - 7  
First Day of School - 12  
PTO Meeting/Volunteer Training - 26

### SEPTEMBER

No School/Labor Day - 1  
Grandparents Luncheon - 3-5  
Start with Hello Week - 15-19  
Constitution Day - 17  
Walk in My Shoes Night - 18  
Celebrate Freedom Week 22-26  
PTO Meeting/Volunteer Training - 23  
Hoot Hut - 26

### OCTOBER

Custodian Appreciation Day - 2  
World Cerebral Palsy Day - 6  
Fall Pictures - 9  
PTO Meeting - 14  
No School Fall Break - 16-17  
Parent/Teacher Conferences - 23, 27, 28  
Flu Clinic - 24  
Strong Choices Week - 27-31  
Fall Party - 31

### NOVEMBER

Pie Supper - 6  
BWHS/BHS Football Tailgater - 7  
Veterans Day - 11  
Second Grade Musical - TBD  
World Diabetes Day - 12  
Picture Retake - 13  
Turkey Trot - 14  
PTO Meeting - 18  
Thankful Lunches - 19-21  
Hoot Hut - 21  
Lighting on the Bentonville Square - 22  
Thanksgiving Break - 24-28

### DECEMBER

Spelling Bee - 11  
Staff Cookie Exchange - 12  
Bentonville Parade - 13  
Winter Party Day- 18  
Winter Break- 22-31

For updated information, including additional events, please visit Evening Star Elementary on Facebook, or call the front office at (479)360-7400.





EVENING STAR ELEMENTARY  
**SCHOOL EVENTS**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS CONTINUED

**JANUARY**

- No School/Virtual Teacher Workday - 5
- Students Return from Winter Break - 6
- No School/MLK Day - 19
- Hoot Hut - 23
- Holocaust Education Week - 26-30
- 100th Day of School - 26
- PTO Meeting/Volunteer Training - 27
- All Bentonville Reads Kickoff - 30

**FEBRUARY**

- Counselor Appreciation Week - 2-6
- Random Acts of Kindness Week - 9-13
- Valentine's Day Party - 13
- No School/President's Day - 17
- Teacher Appreciation Week - 23-27
- PTO Meeting - 24
- 4th Grade Musical - TBD

**MARCH**

- All Bentonville Reads Community Event - 1
- Read Across America - 2-6
- Spring Picture Day - 9
- Coin Drive - 9-12
- PTO Meeting - 10
- Parent/Teacher Conferences - 16, 17, 19
- Down Syndrome Awareness Day - 19
- Spring Break - 20-27

**APRIL**

- Paraprofessional Appreciation Day - 1
- Autism Awareness Day - 2
- Librarian Appreciation Day - 3
- Cereal Drive - 6-17
- PTO Mahjon Social - 10
- PTO Meeting - 14
- Hoot Hut - 17
- Office Staff Appreciation Day - 20-24
- Earth Day - 22
- Gold Rush - TBD
- No School/Staff Dev - 27
- School Bus Driver Appreciation - 28
- Bike to School Week - TBD

**MAY**

- Cafeteria Appreciation Day - 1
  - School Nurse Day - 7
  - Mental Health Awareness Day - 11-15
  - PTO Meeting - 12
  - Kindergarten Orientation - 14
  - Field Day - 15
  - Speech/OT/PT Appreciation Day - 15
  - Student Appreciation Week - 18-22
  - Kindergarten Celebration - 21
  - 4th Grade Clapout Celebration - 22
  - No School/Memorial Day - 25
  - Color's Day Fun Run - 26
  - Last Day - 27
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# PARENT-FAMILY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Ashley Williams (Principal) [awilliams@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:awilliams@bentonvillek12.org)

Brooke Dancer (Assistant Principal) [mdancer@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:mdancer@bentonvillek12.org)

Paula Kaufmann (Counselor) [pkaufmann@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:pkaufmann@bentonvillek12.org)

Paige Eggimann (Counselor) [peggimann@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:peggimann@bentonvillek12.org)

Julie Dibee (Literacy Coach) [jdibee@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:jdibee@bentonvillek12.org)

Katie Curry (Math Coach) [kcurry@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:kcurry@bentonvillek12.org)

Paige West (Kindergarten Teacher) [pwest@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:pwest@bentonvillek12.org)

Ellie Jayne (1st Grade Teacher) [ejayne@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:ejayne@bentonvillek12.org)

Ashley Campbell (4th Grade Teacher) [acampbelle@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:acampbelle@bentonvillek12.org)

Cassie Sparks (Parent) [esptopresident@gmail.com](mailto:esptopresident@gmail.com)

Jenna Woodard (Parent) [esptopresident@gmail.com](mailto:esptopresident@gmail.com)

(School Military Liaison)



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