Sonnesyn Family Engagement Plan

(Can be put on school letterhead)

School Vision and Family Engagement Targets

Vision Statement:

At Sonnesyn we have an inclusive definition of family that is respectful of each child's family structure. Therefore, family is not limited to just parents or legal guardians of children in the home. For example, a family may also include new spouses and partners of parents, extended families (grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, etc.), step-relatives, or any other person a family unit designates as a family member. With this in mind, we understand that support may look different from family to family. School staff will be mindful of who has legal access to student information and ask administration if they are unsure.

We believe family partnerships are integral to the success of our students. We believe families can support, encourage, and reinforce regulation at school. It is essential to maintain open communication between the home and the school. Families have the right to regular communication concerning their child. This includes reaching out to families early in the year through formal and informal methods of communication in order to establish positive partnerships. Whenever possible, staff will utilize the family's preferred method of communication (email, phone, text, letter).It is important that the school community continually increase their ability to function comfortably in cross-cultural settings and to interact positively with people from cultures and races that differ from their own.

Targets:

1. *Strengthen communication between the school and families.*
2. *Increase family participation in school events and decision-making.*
3. *Support families in helping students achieve academic success.*
4. *Create a welcoming, inclusive environment for all families.*

Communication Strategies:

Strategy	Description	Frequency	Responsible Party
Welcome Letter	Intro to Class Letter from Teacher	*Once*	*Teacher or Specialist*
Schoology or SeeSaw website	curriculum information and events	updated bi-weekly	Teacher or Specialist
Parent/teacher conferences	Meetings with families	Spring and Fall	Teachers
Peach Jar	Electronic communication	Weekly	Becky Gumz
Up-to-date school website and Facebook page	Online resources	Daily	Secretary and Admin
Robo calls and mass emails regarding		As needed	Secretary and Admin
Front Sign		As needed	Secretary and Admin

Family Involvement Opportunities

Activity/Event	Purpose	Date/ Time	Contact
Open House	Build connections with families and staff	August 28, 2025 4:00-5:30 PM	Principal/Secretary
Back to School BBQ	Build connections with families and staff	September 18, 2025 5:00-6:30 PM	Principal/Secretary
Fun Run	Build connections with families and staff &	October 10, 2025 During school day	Principal/PTSO

	raise money for school events		
Conference/Home Visits	Build connections with families and staff	Fall: October 7, 9, 14 Spring: March 10, 12, 17 3:00-7:00 PM	Principal/Secretary
All School Bingo	Build connections with families and staff	October 7, 2025 5:00-7:00 PM	PTSO
Literacy Night	Build connections with families and staff & promote literacy in our community	November 20, 2025 5:00-6:30 PM	Principal/PTSO
STEM Night	Build connections with families and staff & build confidence in science, technology, engineering, and math	February 5, 2026 5:00-6:30 PM	Principal/PTSO
Band/Orchestra/Choir Concert	Build connections with families and staff while listening to student's musical accomplishments	March 10, 2026 1:00 PM 6:00PM	Music Department
Art Night	Build connections with families and staff & explore artistic expression	March 17, 2026 5:00-7:00 PM	PTSO
All School Dance	Build connections with families and staff	April 17, 2026 5:30-7:00 PM	Principal/PTSO
School Carnival	Build connections with families and staff	May 15th, 2026 5:30-7:30 PM	Principal/PTSO
Super Kids Day	Build connections with families and staff	June 1, 2026 During school day	Phys. Ed. Teacher

Decision-Making, Shared Responsibility, Evaluation

Example: (Committees, Surveys/ Feedback Tools, etc.)

PTA/PTO:

- Description: Monthly Meetings with School Leadership and Parent Representatives
- Dates

Family Support Services:

Service	Description	Contact information
Translation Services	*Translation support for meetings, documents, phone calls, etc.*	*ElLTeacher/District Language Services*
PTSO	Joint leadership	Sam Mellum, President
Family Response Services		
Housing Navigators		
Community Needs Shelf	Free food and other supplies	Kelly Betzold