

# Berta Weathersbee Elementary School

## Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2026-2027 School Year

*Lonnie Thornton, Principal*  
1200 Forrest Avenue  
(706) 883-1570  
[berta.troup.org](http://berta.troup.org)

*Plan Revised: March 25, 2025*

### What is Title I?

Berta Weathersbee Elementary is identified as a Title I school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards to reinforce and enhance efforts in improving teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parent and family engagement.

Title I schools must jointly develop a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

## School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

### What is it?

This is a plan that describes how Berta Weathersbee Elementary School (BWES) will provide opportunities to improve parent and family engagement to support student learning. BWES values the contributions and involvement of families to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that BWES will support parent and family engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

### How is it revised?

BWES invited all families to attend our annual School Improvement Forum last spring (2025) to review and revise this parent and family engagement policy, the school improvement plan, and the parental engagement budget. Input from our forum was used to create the 2026-2027 plan. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year through a form available in the Parent Resource Center. The plan is posted on our school website for families to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year.

### Who is it for?

All students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families, are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. BWES will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with students that have disabilities and parents of migratory children.

### Where is it available?

At the beginning of the year, the plan is included in the student handbook that is available to parents as well as online. Copies of the plan will be available at our Annual Title I Parent Meeting at the beginning of the year. The plan is housed in the Parent Resource Room and posted on the school website.

**2026-2027 District Goals**

Goal1: StrengthenHigh-QualityInstruction and Student Achievement

Goal 2: Foster a Supportive, Engaging, and Future-Ready Learning Environment

Goal 3: Build Professional Capacity Through Collaborative Leadership and Data-Driven Practices

**District Values**

|             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| Connection  | Equity     |
| Achievement | Resilience |
| Integrity   | Compassion |

**School-Parent Compacts**

Aspart of thisplan, BWESand our families will develop school-parent compacts by grade level. These agreements that parents, teachers, and students will develop explain how all parties will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards and goals. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annuallybased on feedback from parents, students and teachers during the beginning of each school year. Parents will receive a copy of the compact to keep at home. Compacts will be reviewed with parents during the year aswell.

**Let’s Get Together!**

Berta Weathersbee Elementary School will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parent and family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. Many meetings will be offered at 2 different times to accommodate our families. Invitations will come home in Tuesday folders, and dates will be posted on the website and mentioned in grade level newsletters. We may be able to be offer childcare during meetings if needed. Please call the office about this service.

**Annual Title I Parent Meeting –Beginning of the Year**

We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents’ requirements.

**Parent Teacher Conferences –Fall and Spring**

We will invite families to join us for conferences in the fall for K –5<sup>th</sup> grades. Spring conferences will also be held for K –2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Pre-K conferences will be in December and in May.

**Various Academic Workshops–Throughout the Year**

BWES will host a minimum of 2 academic workshops this year for our parents. The topics will be based on parent input and school needs. These workshops will help families gain a better understanding of our curriculum and the many resources we use to strengthen our instruction for students.

**Various Family Events –Throughout the Year**

We will host many family events at BWES this year. Building relationships with our families is very important to us.

**School Improvement Forum –Spring Meeting**

We ask that you come and give your input after review of the School Improvement Plan, Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and Title I Budget for the upcoming school year. We value your input as our BWES parents.

## Parent Resource Center

Our parent resource center is located in a mobile unit behind the main hall. Come to look through the pamphlets on a variety of topics or use the computer to find other resources.

Hours of operation are 8:00-1:30.

## Parent and Family Engagement

BWES believes that parent and family engagement means the participation of parents in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- That parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- That parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- That parents and families are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.
- The carrying out of other activities as described in this plan.

BWES is committed to helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you miss a meeting and would like a copy of the minutes.

(706) 883-1570 or

[berta.troup.org](http://berta.troup.org)

## The BEST are at BERTA!

Berta Weathersbee Elementary will take the following measures to promote and support families as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will:

- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in grade level newsletters and in Tuesday folders. We will also be sure information is posted on the school website for parents.
- Provide regular information for staff during faculty meetings and in staff updates on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- Partner with Head Start and Early Reading programs by conducting joint staff meetings for parents and sending school information about parent engagement activities to help prepare parents and their child for kindergarten and improve school transition.
- Share information in grade level newsletters and on the website for parents to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, through phone messages, social media, and flyers.
- Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement.
- Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- Provide translated materials and interpreters during meetings and conferences to the extent possible to better serve our families.
- Use our Partners in Education, School Council, and Parent Advisory Council (PAC) to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement policy.
- Share information about literacy and computer classes for parents to help further enhance their various educational levels.
- Collect feedback from parents at all events and post a suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.

## Family Liaison

We have a Family Liaison in our building who strives to strengthen ties between home and school. Janice Roberts is an asset to our school. Her main goals are to be available to parents based on their needs, coordinate parent programs, and maintain the necessary Title I documentation for the system and state.

## Title 1 Parent Advisory Council

BWES invites all parents to join the Title 1 Parent Advisory Council (PAC) to share ideas and ways to involve other parents and to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The council will meet several times during the school year. Dates will be posted on our website and social media. If you would like to know more about the PAC, please contact our Family Liaison or complete the interest form and leave it in the Main Office.

## Title 1 Parent Advisory Council

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the Parent Advisory Council (PAC)
- Please contact me so I can learn more joining the PAC
- Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name and Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Share Your Thoughts

*We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this plan that you feel is not satisfactory with the students' and the school's goals for academic achievement, please complete the form at the link below.*

