



Powell Elementary Family Engagement Plan 2026-2027



Powell Elementary believes that school is a partnership between teachers, students, parents, and community. Research indicates that parental engagement is a critical factor in a child's ability to learn and be successful. With our status as a Community School, there has been a steady increase of parent/family/community involvement at Powell Elementary. We continue to strive to improve in areas identified by stakeholders.

Tennessee Standards for Family-School Partnerships are:

Standard 1- Welcoming all families into the school community

Standard 2- Communicating effectively

Standard 3- Supporting student success

Standard 4- Speaking up for every child

Standard 5- Sharing Power

Standard 6- Collaborating with community

This policy addresses the federal and state requirements and supports the goals in the school improvement plan, as well as Senate bill No. 293, which requires schools to comply with the six standards above.

TN Standard 1 – Welcoming all families into the school community.

Powell Elementary has completed the following steps:

- Principal and classroom teachers send out weekly news communicating events, needs and parent information on Parent Square. Parent Square is a tool that is utilized to share celebrations, news, upcoming events, etc. with all families signed up.
- Safety inspections are regularly completed by our SRO and administration to ensure the school and playgrounds are welcoming and safe.
- Powell Elementary offers Shades of Development as an on-site after school care program. Within this program, students are provided with tutoring and enrichment opportunities.
- TN All Corps tutoring is provided to students that meet the qualifications during the school day.
- A safe and reliable system has been implemented to ensure the safety of our car riders when students are dismissed at the end of the day.
- Ongoing activities are planned to engage parents throughout the year and align with academic initiatives. These activities focus on strengthening the connection between parents and school and providing academic strategies for parents.
- The building has been organized to create a welcoming environment, communicate expectations for behavior throughout the school, and support positive interactions between students and educators.

- The school has worked hard to create a welcoming website that is easy to navigate and find information parents need. A specific tab is designated for families at the top of the website.
- The school provides tours and detailed intakes to familiarize parents with the school and increase their comfort level.

The family engagement events that meet the criteria for Standard I include:

- Meet the Teacher Night– August 6th, 2026, All parents and children are asked to visit school and meet their teacher.
- We offer free backpacks, school supplies, and shoes this year to our students in need.
- Title 1 Events are designed to help parents learn strategies to help their child in literacy/ reading as well as learn more about S.T.E.M. Teachers work with parents to model best practices in reading instruction and math instruction. Our school provides materials that parent and child can use at home to reinforce concepts.
- Parent Conference Nights are held twice annually, to communicate with parents regarding student academic and behavior progress and student/teacher/parent compacts. Teachers are asked to contact every parent.
- In coordination with Powell Elementary PTA, multiple family engagement events are held throughout the year such as the Veteran’s Day program, Track or Treat, Book Fair, Family Dine Out Events, Music programs, Fine Arts Events, and other school wide events.
- Parents are invited to end of year awards assemblies and 5th grade special ceremonies where we recognize their annual student achievement.

TN Standard 2 – Communicating Effectively

- All important information is communicated in both English, Spanish, and Native Language (as needed). This includes newsletters and event notices via ParentSquare.
- Student handbooks are sent home the first 4 ½ weeks of school, which contain all school policies and procedures. The Student Handbook can also be found on the school website.
- Information meetings about data, changes in curriculum, and forms of academic assessments with proficiency level expectations are presented in conjunction with School Wide School Meetings, Parent Conferences, and Family Engagement Events.
- Title I handbooks, parent compacts, and the family engagement plan are sent home in English and in Spanish. The Title I handbook includes suggestions on how parents may support their children’s learning, volunteering in the school, participation in the District Advisory Council, etc.
- Our school website is maintained regularly with updated current information as well as Title 1 Information for parents and community to view.
- A take home folder, agenda, ParentSquare or Aspen is updated with comments/notes from the teacher and is sent home for a parent/guardian review. These folders are used for communicating general information and the behavior of the student on a daily/weekly basis.

- School Staff are expected to return all phone calls, messages, and emails to parents within 24 business hours.
- The Parent Square communication system is used to communicate information directly to the parent electronically.
- Parents will be given regular student progress reports through daily folders, mid-term reports, and report cards, as well as access to grades online through Aspen.
- Parent teacher conferences will be held 2-3 times per year for the entire school or as requested by parents.
- The School Administration will maintain an open-door policy for teachers and students to discuss concerns or questions. Parents have access to administrators during school hours via phone, access via email, or in person visits if they have an appointment. Administration strives to be visible and accessible to parents and all stakeholders.
- School PTA has social media accounts to keep parents and the community up to date on school happenings.
- Information is kept in the office to inform parents about resources.
- The school's Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) program emphasizes recognizing positive behavior.
- At least weekly, teachers will send home newsletters to notify parents of homework, agendas, or important dates.
- The marquee is kept current to provide information about upcoming events.
- Physical Education teachers send home monthly newsletters.
- Parents receive progress reports every 4½ weeks for those students who are in special education.
- Interim reports are provided every 4½ weeks to inform parents of progress.
- Report cards are provided every 9 weeks for parents to review.
- Teachers and staff are expected to make contact and introduce themselves to each parent of the students in their classroom within the first grading period. Parents are encouraged to keep up with attendance and academics using Aspen.

TN Standard 3 – Supporting Student Success

- Tutoring
- Teachers use PBIS incentives, programs, and strategies to recognize good behavior, academic accomplishments, and other awards. Students are recognized on the morning announcements and recognition of such is posted in the main front hallway bulletin board.
- Students will have the opportunity to campaign for student council. Our student council leads whole school activities and shares the student perspective on different events at school.
- An instructional coach works with teachers through Individual Learning Cycles, Professional Learning Communities, and Professional Development to increase teacher knowledge and improve student achievement. These positions are critical to teacher development and student success.
- S-team meetings are held as a process to support students struggling with academics or attendance. This process may lead to formal referrals for academic

- testing or the inclusion of other services.
- Whole Child Support Team meetings are held twice monthly to determine needs of students that are not covered by IEP or the s-team process. This might include needs such as food, clothing, lack of utilities, death in a family, or families in crisis.
- A backpack program is made available for students who need food for the weekend. Several community organizations support this program.
- Local churches, community members and organizations, and teachers work together to cover Angel Tree children at Christmas time with new clothes and a toy request.
- One full time Behavior Teacher and School Counselors work together to meet the mental health needs of our students.
- Positive Office Referrals and tickets for incentives
- The instructional coaches and administrators work with teachers through Individual Learning Cycles (ILCs), Professional Learning Communities, and professional development to increase teacher knowledge and improve student achievement. The coaches play a huge role in our student success.
- An intervention program for students scoring below the 25% is implemented to support skill development for these students. These interventions are teacher directed and may include teaching assistants. These interventions also include computer-based instruction.
- The school social worker and school nurse work with free clinics, local eye doctors and available services to provide glasses, check-ups, clothes and shoes for our students that need these services
- Spanish-speaking personnel and Language Live device to support the ELL student population and their parents.

Standard 4 – Speaking Up for Every Child

- Whole Child Support Team (WCST) meeting is held monthly to determine the needs of students based on teacher referrals. This might include needs such as food, clothing, lack of utilities, death in a family, emotional or social issues or family crisis such as parents with disabilities, parents of migratory children, etc.
- S-team meetings are held as a process to support students struggling with academics, attendance, or other issues impacting academic performance. This process may lead to formal referrals for academic testing or the inclusion of other services. Prior to such referrals the S-team process documents interventions made by the school to support the struggling student.
- The school district provides a registered nurse on site full time.
- Students are provided with the opportunity for a free dental screening. Referrals were made as necessary for students with dental problems.
- The school social worker works with community organizations, volunteers, and other available services to provide food, clothes, shoes, and other needs for students as necessary.
- Provide resources to families in their native language.
- A Full-time counselor is available to meet the needs of the students and provide resources to families and staff.
- An intervention program for students scoring 25% on the Universal Screener is implemented to support skill development around reading and math. These

interventions are teacher directed and may include teaching assistants. These interventions also include computer-based instruction.

TN Standard 5 – Sharing Power

- Sneak Peek is held prior to the first day of school to allow parents and students to meet their teachers, to welcome families back from summer, and get acquainted with the school building. There are Grade Level Parent Information Night events within the first month of school for families to receive pertinent information about school policies and procedures, as well as about Title I Programming/ resources, after school programming available, (at school and in the community), the parental involvement policy, to review the rights of parents to be involved, and to receive information on other services and events.
- A student handbook is distributed to all students and parents in the fall. Administration does a walk-through of this resource for parents. Accommodations are made for different language needs as needed.
- Title I handbooks are sent home during the first weeks of school along with the parent compact, that has been jointly developed with parents, to be signed.
- Parent Square, the school web site, and parent meetings/events are used to present information to stakeholders.
- Community partners are invited to attend and participate in the Parent Teacher Association general meetings four times per school year.
- Information is shared with local newspapers and business newsletters for publication to provide positive information about school activities.
- Two parent conference events are held yearly. Teachers also meet with parents as the need arises to meet student needs. Parents of special education students attend meetings at least yearly (and sometime more often) to assess their child's individual program.
- Powell Elementary Family Community Engagement (FCE) plan is developed, updated and reviewed annually jointly with parents, staff and community stakeholders.
- Community groups mentioned above are given information about school activities, plans, accomplishments, and needs.
- The administration oversees all teacher evaluation and programs. Lead teachers share in the evaluation of teachers and the follow up of teacher implementation of strategies in the classroom.
- Instructional Coach is responsible for implementing PLC meetings weekly and provides both group and individual support to teachers as needed.
- A school-wide school meeting is held to discuss the Title I program/funding and the benefits of this program for students.
- Title I Parent Handbooks are sent home during the first week of school.
- A weekly newsletter, Parent Square, our website and the marquee are used to present information to stakeholders.
- PTA board meetings are held with staff members and interested parents to discuss plans for expenditures and the needs of the students
- The School Improvement Plan is developed and shared with the Leadership Team and staff

- Our school plan is developed through collaboration with representatives from stakeholder groups.
- The Instructional Coach is responsible for growing teacher leaders in the Professional Learning Communities on a weekly basis
- The Leadership Team meets monthly to voice their concerns and praises about our school.
- **As the student enrolls**, the registrar meets with parents and provides basic school information is communicated.
- School-wide meetings are held to discuss the Title I program and the benefits of this program for students are presented.
- Parents can call and set up an appointment to meet with the teacher and academy principal at any time during the year.
- Families of special education students meet with their case manager, administration and teacher for their IEP annual review.
- The E-Plan is developed and shared with the Leadership Team and staff.
- The administration oversees all teacher evaluations and programs. Academy instructional deans, lead teachers, and instructional coaches share in the evaluation of teachers.
- The Instructional Support Team meets to review and discuss school-wide data and instructional plans and ensure that the action steps and vision are met.

TN Standard 6 – Collaborating With Community

- The Parent Teacher Association board meets monthly to partner in addressing upcoming events, budget needs, school and community needs.
- Second Harvest provides food backpacks for our students who experience food insecurity on the weekends.
- Community partners support the school through a variety of ways, such as volunteering, working with specific programs and providing monetary assistance.
- Several churches in the area support our school with donations of money, materials, equipment and volunteer hours.
- The PTA is a constant source of support by providing volunteers, festivals, and providing teachers with snacks and a luncheon monthly.

The Powell Elementary Family Engagement Plan was amended & adopted in June 2026.