

Bainbridge Elementary School

Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2026 - 2027

Our Mission

Bainbridge Elementary School (BES) defines family engagement as the participation of families in regular two-way, meaningful communication with the school involving student academic learning, social and emotional development, and other school activities.
We ensure that:

- Parents play an integral role in assisting with their child's learning.
- Parents are provided opportunities to be actively involved in their child's education.
- Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making to assist in the education of their child.

Bainbridge Elementary believes that the improved academic achievement of all students is a responsibility shared by the home, school, and community. There will be opportunities provided for parents, guardians, other family members, and community members to share their expertise and to be involved, as part of the team, in making appropriate decisions for their child's education.

We appreciate the teamwork of parents, teachers, staff, community members, and students that leads to overall student success! We welcome your questions and comments regarding our School Improvement Plan, our Title 1 Program, and our School, Parent & Family Engagement policy. Please direct your inquiries or comments to an administrator or the Family Involvement Team through the school office.

2026-2027 Calendar of Events

8/27 School Social
8/31 1st Day of School
9/7 Labor Day, No School
9/16 Family Involvement Team Mtg.
9/16 Open House/Math Night
9/19 Pirate Take Over
9/24 iFamily
10/1 Volunteer Orientation Training
10/7 Family Involvement Team Mtg.
10/15 Reading Parent Workshop
10/15 Reading on the Green & Raising a Reader Kick-Off
10/16 Professional Day, No School
10/22 My Family Matters (Perryville)
10/26 Fall Picture Day
10/26-30 Red Ribbon Week
10/28 Trunk or Treat
11/2 Professional Day - Parent Engagement
11/3 General Election, No School
11/5 End of 1st Marking Period
11/11 Family Involvement Team Mtg.
11/11 Veterans Day Assembly
11/11 CCPS Early Dismissal Day
11/16-20 American Education Week
11/19 My Family Matters (Bainbridge)
11/25-27 Thanksgiving Holiday
12/2 Family Involvement Team Mtg.
12/7 Fall Picture Retakes
12/9 Winter Concert
12/23 STEM/PBIS
12/23 CCPS Early Dismissal Day
12/24-1/1 Winter Holiday Break
1/6 Family Involvement Team Mtg.
1/14 My Family Matters (Perryville)
1/18 MLK Jr. Day, No School
1/22 End of 2nd Marking Period
1/28 Paint Night
1/29 CCPS Early Dismissal Day
2/9 Time to Shine, during the day
2/10 Family Involvement Team Mtg.
2/12 Professional Day, No School
2/15 Presidents' Day, No School
2/25 iFamily
3/1-5 Read Across America Week
3/3 Reading Family Event (PK-2nd), 8 am
3/3 Reading Family Event (3rd-5th), 9:15-10
3/4 My Family Matters (Bainbridge)
3/10 Family Involvement Team Mtg.
3/18 Parent Empowerment BINGO
3/22 CCPS Inclement Weather Day #2
3/23 CCPS Inclement Weather Day #3
3/24-29 Spring Holiday
4/7 Family Involvement Team Mtg.
4/7 End of 3rd Marking Period
4/7 Family Science Night with the Maryland Science Center
4/16 Time to Shine
4/16 CCPS Early Dismissal
4/22 Spring Picture Day
4/22 iFamily, 8:00
4/27 Spring Concert, 6:30
4/30 CCPS Inclement Weather Day #1
5/5 Games w/ Grandparents
5/12 Family Involvement Team Mtg.
5/20 iFamily
5/28 Fun & Fitness Day
5/31 Memorial Day, No School
6/4 CCPS Early Dismissal Day
6/4 Fun & Fitness Make-up Day
6/8 Family Involvement Team Mtg.
6/9-11 CCPS Early Dismissal
6/11 Last Day of School - tentative

Key Points for Communicating with Us

Ways you can communicate with Bainbridge Elementary Staff:

- Phone: (410) 996-6030
- Email: Visit the school website, https://bes.ccps.org/ to locate the email address for your child's teacher.
- Please feel free to contact your child's teacher with any questions, scheduling conferences, or general information.
- Please contact Maggie Buto, Assistant Principal, for potential volunteer opportunities and ways to get involved.

Ways Bainbridge Elementary will communicate with you:

- Phone
- Electronic Newsletters
- Flyers (sent electronically, Smore, email, BB Messenger)
- Email
- Surveys
- School Messenger
- Schoology
- Seesaw
- Google Calendar
- Bainbridge Facebook Page- www.facebook.com/bainbridge.ccps

****Inform the school immediately of any home address, telephone number, or email address changes for all contacts we have on file for your child.****

PowerSchool Parent Portal: Here you can view online grades and attendance information for your child. Please contact the school office for more information.

Volunteering

Bainbridge Elementary School welcomes parent/legal guardian and community help and support.

Bainbridge Elementary appreciates volunteers to help in the school.

- Please attend one of the Volunteer Orientation sessions we offer.
    - For safety reasons, volunteers helping in school are required to attend an orientation every year and complete a background check form every 2 years.

- The Assistant Principal will provide training and information about volunteer activities throughout the year. Please contact your child's teacher or the school office if you are interested in volunteering.
- Chaperones, chosen to help with a class field trip, will be approved after a background check/Raptor check is completed. Chaperones must complete mandatory training on the day of the field trip before attending any field trips.

Important Information and Resources

- **Curriculum Information**
  - Common Core Standards**:** www.mdk12.org
  - Math: https://www.ccps.org/instruction/elementary-mathematics/elementary-mathematics
  - Reading Bookworms: https://www.ccps.org/instruction/elementary-english-language-arts/elementary-curriculum
  - Schoology: http://cecilcounty.schoology.com/
  - SeeSaw: https://app.seesaw.me/#/student/login
  - Clever: https://clever.com
- **Bainbridge Elementary Facebook Page**
  - www.facebook.com/bainbridge.ccps
- **Google Calendar**
  - Bainbridge Elementary / Calendar
- **Cecil County Public Schools App**
- **School Website**
  - https://bes.ccps.org/

Increasing Capacity for Learning at Home

The faculty and staff at Bainbridge Elementary School will work with parents, as equal partners, in their child's academic process. We will assist families in understanding academic content standards, student performance levels, and Title I requirements.

To increase parent and family engagement with the understanding of these standards, we will:

- Provide support through our Family Involvement Team
  - You are invited to attend our FIT meetings to discuss school topics, such as Title 1 benefits, curriculum, and school funding.

- Host family workshops and events, such as iFamily and curriculum programs, such as STREAM (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts and Math) day, and reading and math workshops.
- Provide family resource materials, information about books, enrichment resources, and experiences.
- Provide opportunities for family engagement and communication.
- Provide reading incentive programs involving family participation, such as Cecil County Public Library Programs.

Families are invited to attend activities that will help to provide a better understanding of how they can assist their children at home, such as those listed below:

- Back to School Social
- Volunteer and Chaperone Orientations
- Open House
- Family Involvement Team Meetings (FIT)
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Time to Shine: Student-Led Conferences
- Family Curriculum Events
- iFamily Workshops

Information and resources will be shared in a format that provides full participation of ALL families, in a language that all parents and families can understand.

Shared Decision Making

At Bainbridge Elementary, we include parents and community members in the school improvement process, in making school decisions, and in developing leaders and representatives.

All parents are invited to attend our Family Involvement Team meetings.

Before the end of the 2025-2026 school year, the FIT reviewed the following:

- BES Title 1 School, Parent and Family Engagement Policy
- BES Title 1 School-Parent Compact

During the April 2026 meeting, families were asked to provide input, feedback, and suggestions to help jointly develop the School, Parent and Family Engagement Policy, the Home-School Compact, and the Calendar of Events for the 2026- 2027 school year.

Additional opportunities for families and community involvement are offered throughout the year. These include chances for families, teachers, administrators, stakeholders, and

community members to collaborate, plan, and review. The meeting dates can be found on the school calendar and will be announced through Facebook, the family update, and/or School Messenger.

Parents are encouraged to assist in educating school personnel on how to work with parents as equal partners in their child's educational process.

- **The School Improvement Team** meets throughout the school year to meet these three goals:
    - Help all students meet or exceed high academic standards
    - Ensure all students learn in a safe and inviting environment
    - Ensure that all students benefit from the support provided by the school staff

- **Family Involvement Team (FIT)** meetings provide opportunities for families to be involved in decision-making. We discuss many different topics, including:
    - Title 1 requirements and components
    - School-Parent Compacts
    - School, Parent and Family Engagement Policy
    - Budget information and ideas/input
    - School improvement ideas
    - The Family Engagement calendar of events
    - Maryland College and Career Ready Standards
    - State and local assessments

Collaborating with Families and the Community

At Bainbridge Elementary, we strive to identify and use resources and services from the community to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning and development.

Bainbridge Elementary School is thankful for its many community resources and services! Listed below are some of the many organizations that continue to help us:

- Cecil County Library has provided reading programs at BES.
- Business partnership with Subworks Pizzeria.
- Eastern Shore Crisis Response Services (Sante Group) provides support to our students and their families.
- Maryland Department of Public Works
- The University of Delaware
- Cecil College
- University of Maryland 4-H Extension

- University of Maryland: Growing Healthy Habits
- North Bay
- Fair Hill Nature Center
- Lion's Club (Vision checks)
- Rotary Club (3rd grade- dictionary)
- Cecil Co. Health Dept (dental)
- The Judy Center
- CCPS Sheriff's Department School Resource Office
- Community Connecting Us
- Ray of Hope Mission Center
- York Builders
- Calvary Missionary Baptist
- Nicanor INC.
- Cokesbury United Methodist Church
- West Cecil Health Center
- Cecil County Health Department
- Bodhi Counseling
- Voices of Hope, Inc.
- Cecil County Public Library
- Maryland Food Bank
- Martin's Grocery

Bainbridge Elementary School and the Family Involvement Team developed this policy in order to establish the school's expectations for parental involvement, as well as to describe how we will implement our parental involvement activities.

If you have questions or comments about the policy, please feel free to submit comments and suggestions to the school office.

We also invite you to discuss this policy and/or concerns by contacting:

George Whisner, *Principal,* *gwhisner@ccps.org*
Maggie Buto, *Assistant Principal,* *mbuto@ccps.org*