

Booker T. Washington Elementary

PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY 2019-2020

The issues of parent and family engagement are critical to the academic success of each Booker T. Washington Elementary student. It is also fundamental to a healthy system of public education that expects all students to achieve at high levels. The council will have, as a part of its Comprehensive School Improvement Planning process, a purposeful parent and family engagement component that shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:

- Methods that will be used to promote purposeful school-to-home communication that are sensitive to variances in comprehensive opportunities/abilities
- Identification of professional development needs for teachers, administrators, and staff to address working effectively with all families, especially those of culturally diverse backgrounds and special education needs.
- Demographics of all students; awareness of, and follow up with, those families requiring home visits or off-site conferences.
- Determination of types of learning at home that should take place to support learning at school.
- Ongoing training for parent and family members about council practices and council committee involvement.
- Definitions regarding what constitute effective parent and family engagement at Booker T. Washington Elementary and how that engagement will positively impact student achievement.
- Efforts and measures employed to elicit minority and special needs representation/participation in the educational process at Booker T. Washington Elementary.
- An annual meeting, held early in the school year, will inform parents of the school's participation in the Title I program, explain the requirements of the program and assure parents of their right to be involved.
- A minimum of nine meetings during the school year will give parents/guardians an opportunity to receive training and/or materials in an effort to help them to work with their child and to improve their child's achievement, as well as to support parent engagement. Parents can make suggestions and participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child. These meetings, as well as parent teacher conferences, will be held at different times during the day.
- Parents will be given opportunities to learn about the curriculum, standards, and assessments used to measure student progress and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- A School/Family compact has been jointly developed and approved by parents to outline ways in which parents/guardians, staff, and students will share responsibilities to improve achievement.
- A survey will be shared with all parents/guardians giving them the opportunity to express opinions about the current Title I program, give suggestions to improve the program, as well as the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School/Family Compact, and suggest additional topics to assist in meeting parent/guardian needs.
- Title I funds may be utilized to provide for any reasonable and necessary expenses such as child care, transportation, or a translator in order to enable parents/ guardians to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.

The school will demonstrate an effort to reach families that are underrepresented in the school, have transportation or child care problems, lack the confidence or time, and/or have limited literacy or limited English language skills.

The school will schedule two annual meetings for families that are convenient and offered at a time that is flexible. These meetings will describe all school programs, Title I, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, School/Family Compact, and family engagement initiatives. Since this Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be part of the Comprehensive School

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First Reading: August 22, 2017

Second Reading September 18, 2017

Approved: September 18, 2017

Improvement Plan, it will be subject to the same implementation and impact checks undergone by all components of the plan. Parents will receive a copy of the policy.