

# Title I Parent & Family Engagement Policy & Compact

## Purpose of this Policy and Compact

*Efforts will be made to clearly articulate the school's intentions to engage with and involve parents/caregivers in the educational process.*

Braddock Elementary is a Title I school within Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) and utilizes the Title I grant to improve student achievement and help all students meet the objectives of the FCPS Program of Studies and the Virginia Standards of Learning. A partnership with families is essential to meeting this goal.

Under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, schools that receive Title I funds are expected to collaborate with families to develop and maintain a parent and family engagement policy that describes the school's approach to involve families in students' learning and includes a compact expressing the partnerships among staff, caregivers, and students to reach high academic goals for every student.

Braddock Elementary jointly developed this policy and compact with members of the school community and adopted it for the 2020-2021 school year. Several of the provisions specifically address state or federal expectations for the policy and compact.

This policy and compact is distributed to all caregivers in a language that families can understand. Caregivers have opportunities to provide comments and feedback on the policy and compact through comment boxes housed outside the front office and family center. Comments are submitted with the school's policy and compact to FCPS central offices and the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). This policy and compact are made available to the broader school community through the school website.

## Important Dates

### Grade Level Picnics

- September 2020 & October 2020

### Back-to-School Night

- October 2020

### Parent-Teacher Conferences

- November 2020

### Quarterly Interims & Progress Report Distribution

- November 2020, February 2021, April 2021, & June 2021



### PTA School Events

- PTA Movie Night; August 2020
- Bingoween & Character Parade: October 2020
- Restaurant Night: December 2020 & April 2021
- Sprint Bingo & Movie Night: February 2021 & March 2021

### School Events

- Maker Space Event: Mid-September 2020
- AAP Local Level IV Information Night: October 2020 & April 2021
- ESOL & Special Education Information Night: October 2020
- Girl Powered Event: Mid October 2020
- Young Scholars Career Academy: Fall 2020 & Spring 2021
- Two-Way Immersion "Parrandas" Concert: December 2020
- Grade Level Parent Literacy Workshops: Fall 2020 & Spring 2021
- Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving Lunch & Walk-a-thon: November 2020
- Fall/Winter Book Fair: November 24<sup>th</sup> through December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- Winter Band Grade 5 Band Concert: December 2020
- Winter Chorus Concerts Grades 4 & 5: December 2020
- Monthly Special Needs Family Support Group: February, March, April 2020
- Kindergarten Science Expo: April 2021
- Math & Science Night: April 2021
- School-wide KPMG Event: April 2021 (not scheduled yet)
- Family Science Night: April 2021
- Spring Book Fair: April 2021 (not scheduled yet)
- Spring Music Concerts Grades 4 & 5: April & May 2021
- X-STREAM Banquet: May 2021
- Art Show: May 2021
- Grade 5 Promotion Ceremony: June 2021

## Building Capacity for Engagement

***Efforts will be made to ensure parents/caregivers are actively involved in the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the school's Title I program, including the following:***

- ◇ Provide family members a voice in decision-making on committees, such as e-Notify for emergencies, News You Choose email messages, quarterly Parent Newsletters, weekly Friday Communication Folders, School Memos, Event Flyers, and the BES Website which contains a variety of information for students and their family members.
- ◇ Engage caregiver input when developing the School Improvement and Innovation Plan (SIIP), Comprehensive Needs Assessment, the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Compact and plans for use of Title I family engagement funding.
- ◇ Seek feedback from families on programs within the SIIP, offer multiple methods for caregivers to submit comments about programs they may not find satisfactory, and submit any such comments with SIIP to FCPS central offices.
- ◇ Invite family members to help in organizing and executing a variety of school events (i.e., BES Book Fairs, BES Curriculum Nights, and PTA Sponsored events) to build collective ownership.
- ◇ Provide opportunities for caregivers to volunteer within the school in various ways, such as Parent Center, Room Parents, Library Helpers, Clinic, and our BES Café.
- ◇ Encourage families to take part in the annual evaluation of the division-level Title I parent and family engagement policy in order to identify:
  - ◇ barriers to greater family participation
  - ◇ ways to help family members be better able to assist in student learning
  - ◇ strategies to support successful school and family interactions

## Effective Communication with Parents

***Efforts will be made to ensure parents/caregivers receive meaningful communication in a timely manner, including the following:***

- ◇ Use multiple methods of communication to families such as e-Notify for emergencies, News You Choose email messages, quarterly parent newsletters, weekly Friday Communication Folder, school memos, event flyers, and our BES Website which contains a variety of information for students and their families.
- ◇ Encourage all caregivers to attend an annual meeting on Back-To-School Night to share information about Title I services, explain Title I grant requirements, and inform families of their right to be involved in the school.
- ◇ Share school and students' performance data with families in ways that seek their ideas about how to improve performance toward Virginia's challenging academic standards, such as quarterly interim reports, quarterly progress report cards, and student performance data summary of progress of Horizon and DRA reading scores.
- ◇ Provide opportunities throughout the year for families to better understand the school's goals for students and find ways to improve students' learning by providing families with a variety of workshops that focus on Tier I core instruction in the areas of reading, math, and science; as well as socio-emotional wellness.
- ◇ Maintain resources for caregivers to review students' assignments and ongoing communication about students' work, such as Friday Folders, Grade Level Newsletters, and the option to sign up for Remind and/or Class Dojo to receive weekly communications.
- ◇ Provide ongoing feedback on students' progress through quarterly progress reports that show specific areas of proficiency and areas for continued growth.
- ◇ Hold parent-teacher conferences for all students at least annually in the fall and more often, as needed.

## Shared Responsibilities for High Academic Achievement

***Efforts will be made to ensure parents/caregivers receive materials, training, and benefits from school partnerships with social and academic services, community-based organizations, and businesses, including the following:***

- ◇ Hold workshops connecting caregivers to tools and resources, such as grade level academic presentations, family networking and networking and informational meetings (i.e., Getting to Know Your Child, Positive Parenting, Homework Help, Understanding Interim Reports/Progress Reports, and other prevalent student data.
- ◇ Offer regular opportunities for families to learn directly from school staff about the school's academic, behavioral, and social programming through Parent Coffees.
- ◇ Encourage participation in family learning events where caregivers learn strategies to support their child's learning at home and have a chance to practice those strategies with their child, such as Grade Level Parent Literacy Workshops, Family Math & Science Nights, etc.
- ◇ Provide ongoing access to resources (i.e., library book check-out, parent classes, adult ESOL classes, etc.) in the school, through the family center and library.
- ◇ Provide mentors for students through partnerships with the local high school and our business and faith-based partners.
- ◇ Provide opportunities to donate and access supplies donated by others, such as school supplies, winter coats, hats, and gloves, weekend and summer food/groceries, glasses, etc.
- ◇ Leverage partnerships with local businesses and organizations to enhance school programs and events, such as volunteers, donations of materials, sponsorship for good or guest speakers.
- ◇ Support parents in accessing county and community resources, such as healthcare, counseling, and tutoring through the school social worker and parent liaison.
- ◇ Offer outreach and training for targeted families in ways to help their children improve literacy and math skills.

## Welcoming All Families

***Efforts will be made to ensure that all parents/caregivers are welcomed and provided opportunities to actively engage within the school, including the following:***

- ◇ Create a welcoming atmosphere at the school with courteous faculty and staff, parent-friendly signs, and availability of resources in multiple languages.
- ◇ Provide interpretation services for parent-teacher conferences, workshops, and meetings.
- ◇ Translate or provide interpretation of all school documents and communication to make them accessible in the caregiver's preferred correspondence language and for those with vision or hearing impairments.
- ◇ Support two-way communication between families and staff through assistance of a parent liaison for outreach, supporting during parent conferences, liaison between home and school when new families transition, communication for critical information to families about student progress and serving as a point of contact for our families.
- ◇ Expand access for family participation in informational meetings and learning sessions throughout the year for students and families.

# Compact Provisions

*School staff, parents/caregivers, and students must work together to ensure a student success.*

## **The staff will:**

**Provide a high-quality curriculum and instruction that enables students to meet challenging academic standard through the following actions:**

- ◇ Teach all students according to the state's challenging standards, using approved curriculum resources.
- ◇ Provide ongoing professional development and support to all teachers to ensure effective instructional practices are used in all classrooms.
- ◇ Offer on-going opportunities and a variety of resources to help students with meaningful learning experiences.
- ◇ Offer opportunities and resources for support and enrichment.

**Provide a supportive and effective learning environment for students through the following actions:**

- ◇ Provide clear expectations for students' behavior and academic learning.
- ◇ Offer a variety of resources to help students with their learning.

**Provide assistance to caregivers in understanding the school's program through the following actions:**

- ◇ Hold an annual meeting to present information on the school's Title I programs, state and division curriculum and assessments, and the school's state and federal accountability status.
- ◇ Provide multiple opportunities for caregivers to ask questions and give input into the Title I programs.

**Build caregivers' involvement in the school's Title I program through the following actions:**

- ◇ Include caregivers as members of the School Improvement and Innovation Planning (SIIP) Committee and as collaborators in developing the SIIP and plans for the use of Title I family engagement funds.
- ◇ Encourage parents to participate in scheduled BES daytime/evening events.
- ◇ Provide access to school calendars, supply lists, contact information, classwork, homework, and events.
- ◇ Provide correspondents in English and Spanish.

## **The parents/caregivers will:**

**Demonstrate understanding that participation in my child's education will help his or her achievement through the following actions:**

- ◇ Participate in decisions related to school programs and my child's education and share my questions or comments about the programs in my child's school.
- ◇ Volunteer in my child's classroom or in school activities, as my schedule allows.
- ◇ Encourage and support my child's learning at home and at school.
- ◇ Send my child to school on-time, well rested, and prepared for learning.
- ◇ Encourage and support my child's learning at home and at school.
- ◇ Volunteering in my child's school, classroom, or daytime/evening program.

## **The student will:**

**Share the responsibility to improve my academic learning to achieve the state's challenging standards through the following actions:**

- ◇ Get enough sleep every night.
- ◇ Come to school on time, unless I am sick.
- ◇ Try my hardest and work with my classmates to complete learning tasks.
- ◇ Give my parents all notes and papers from my teacher.
- ◇ Discuss with family what I learned in school and give them all notes and information sent home from school every day.

