



# Parent and Family Engagement Policy and 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 Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) that utilizes the Title I Grant funding 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 2021-2022 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

### Progress Report Distribution

- Quarter 1:** November 2021
- Quarter 2:** February 2022
- Quarter 3:** April 2022
- Quarter 4:** June 2022

### Interims

- Quarter 1:** Parent-Teacher Conference
- Quarter 2:** December 2021
- Quarter 3:** March 2022
- Quarter 4:** May 2022

### Other

- Monthly BES Town Hall Meetings
- Young Scholars K-2 Initiative
- Robotics
- Chess Club
- Coding Café
- Garden Club & Environmental Action
- TJ KAST
- SEVA Truck
- Family Literacy Classes (Spanish)
- Early Literacy Classes (Korean & Spanish)

### Annual School Events

**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Braddock activities have been limited to a virtual platform to keep everyone safe. We will keep you updated if things should change.**

- **Annual Open House:** August 2021 (In-Person)
- **Annual Back to School Night:** September 2021 (Virtual)
- **Grade Level Family Picnics:** September & October 2021 (Cancelled)
- **AAP Local Level IV Information Night:** September 2021 & April 2022
- **Schoology Parent Orientation:** October 2021 (Virtual)
- **ESOL & Special Education Information Night:** November 2021 (Virtual)
- **Bingoween:** October 2021 (TBD)
- **Young Scholars Career Academy:** Fall 2021 & Spring 2022
- **McDonald’s Nights:** December 2021 & April 2022 (TBD)
- **Grade Level Parent Literacy Workshops:** Fall 2021 & Spring 2022 (Virtual)
- **Veterans’ Day, Thanksgiving Lunch & Walk-a-thon:** November 2021 (TBD)
- **Winter Book Fair:** December 2022
- **Winter Band Grade 5 Band Concert:** December 2021 (TBD)
- **Winter Chorus Concerts Grades 4 & 5:** December 2021 (TBD)
- **Spring Bingo:** March 2022 (TBD)
- **Kindergarten Science Expo:** April 2021 (TBD)
- **Math & Science Night:** April 2022 (TBD)
- **KPMG:** April 2022 (Cancelled)
- **Family Science Night:** April 2022
- **Spring Book Fair:** April 2022 (Virtual)
- **Spring Music Concerts Grades 4 & 5:** April & May 2022 (TBD)
- **Eaglemania:** June 2022 (TBD)
- **Grade 5 Promotion Ceremony:** June 2022 (TBD)

## Building Capacity for Involvement

*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:*



- Providing parents/caregivers members a voice in decision-making on committees, such as the School Board's Title I Parent Advisory Committee, School Improvement Planning Team, and the PTA.
- Engaging parent/caregiver input when developing the School Innovation & Improvement Plan (SIIP), Title I Schoolwide Plan, the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Compact and plans for use of Title I family engagement funding.
- Seeking feedback from families on programs within the Title I Schoolwide Plan, offer multiple methods for parents/caregivers to submit comments about programs they may not find satisfactory, and submit any such comments with the Title I Schoolwide Plan to FCPS central offices.
- Inviting family members to help in organizing and executing a variety of school events to build collective ownership, such as Book Fairs, International Nights, Movie Nights, and Fun Fairs.
- Providing opportunities for parents/caregivers to volunteer within the school in various ways, such as room parents, library helpers, health room and cafeteria helpers.
- Encouraging families to take part in annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the division-level Title I parent and family engagement policy to identify barriers to greater family participation, ways to help family members be better able to assist in student learning, and 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:*



- Using multiple methods of communication to parents/caregivers such as eNotify for emergencies, Talking Points, WhatsApp, Class Dojo, News You Choose email messages, monthly parent newsletter, weekly Friday Communication folders, school memos, event flyers, Schoology, and the BES website which contains a variety of information for students and parents/caregivers.
- Encouraging all parents/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 rights to be involved in the school. Share school and students' performance data with parents/caregivers in ways to seek their ideas about how to improve performance toward Virginia's challenging academic standards, during Parent-Teacher conferences and quarterly grade level newsletters sent home to parents/caregivers.
- Providing opportunities throughout the year for parents/caregivers to better understand the school's goals for students and find ways to improve student learning by providing parents/caregivers a variety of workshops that focus on Tier I core instruction in the areas of reading, math, and science. Additionally, parents/caregivers can participate in BES daytime/evening workshops that provide them with information regarding their child's progress report, interim, iReady Universal Screener, and other student data reports such as the NNAT, CoGAT, WIDA, and SOLs. Providing parents/caregivers with this information allows them to better understand where their child is performing academically, as well as understand the data points that schools/VA State use to assess their child. Additionally, ongoing feedback on student progress is provided through quarterly interims and quarterly progress reports that show specific areas of proficiency and areas for continued growth, as well as two annual Parent-Teacher conferences.
- Maintaining our Braddock website with an abundance of resources for parents/caregivers to include, but not limited to: Grade level academic quarterly overviews, grade level newsletters, student approved academic websites, student-teacher videos, etc.

## 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:*



- Holding workshops connecting parents/caregivers to tools and resources such as grade level academic presentations, student-parent/caregivers 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.
- Offering regular opportunities for parents/caregivers to learn directly from school staff about the school's academic, behavioral, and social programming through Parent Coffees.
- Encouraging participation in family learning events where parents/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 Night and Family Science Night.
- Providing ongoing access to resources in the school, such as family center featuring books, and check-out materials, as well as information on parent classes, including adult ESOL classes.
- Providing mentors for students through partnerships with the local high school and local businesses.
- Providing opportunities to donate and access supplies donated by others, such as school supplies, winter coats, and weekend food resources.
- Leveraging partnerships with local businesses and organizations to enhance school programs and events through volunteers, donations of materials, sponsorship for food or guest speakers.
- Supporting parents/caregivers in accessing county and community resources, such as health care, counseling, and tutoring through the school social worker and parent liaison.
- Offering 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:*



- Creating a welcoming atmosphere at the school with courteous faculty and staff, parent-friendly signs, and availability of resources in multiple languages.
- Providing interpretation services for parent-teacher conferences, workshops, and meetings.
- Translating or providing interpretation of all school documents and communication to make them accessible in the parents/caregiver's preferred correspondence language and for those with vision or hearing impairments.
- Supporting two-way communication between families and staff through assistance of a parent liaison for outreach, support during parent conferences, liaison between home and school when new families transition, communicating critical information to parents/caregivers about student progress and serving as a point of contact for questions for families.
- Expanding access for family participation in informational meetings such as Grade Level Parent Literacy Workshops, Math Nights, and other 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:***

***Learning environment for students through the following actions:***

- Providing and communicating clear expectations for student behavior (Students Rights and Responsibilities) and academic learning.
- Offering ongoing opportunities and a variety of resources to help students with meaningful learning experiences.
- Offering opportunities and resources for support and enrichment.
- Providing regular training to teachers to understand students' needs.

***Aid parents/caregivers in understanding the school's program through the following actions:***

- Holding 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.
- Providing multiple opportunities for parents/caregivers to ask questions and give input into the Title I program.
- Providing parents/caregivers with the school's Title I Family Engagement Policy and Compact (BES website).
- Publishing information regarding the school's accreditation and federal accountability results (BES website).
- Adopting and implementing a model or approach for family engagement.
  - Encouraging parents to participate in scheduled Family Literacy, International, and STEAM nights.
  - Providing materials and training for parents in strategies for supporting their children's learning.
  - Providing majority of school correspondences in English and Spanish.
  - Publishing dates for parent-teacher conferences and distribution of student progress reports.
  - Providing access to school calendars, supply lists, contact information, class work, homework, and events.
  - Publishing or presenting information regarding state and local assessments administered during the school year.

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

- Including parents/caregivers as members of the School Improvement Planning (SIP) Committee and as collaborators in developing the Title I Schoolwide Plan and plans for the use of Title I family engagement funds.
- Providing multiple opportunities for parents to receive an overview of the school's Title I Program (i.e., meeting agendas and minutes), and providing parents/caregivers the opportunity to ask questions and provide input.

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

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

- Sending my child to school on time, well rested and prepared for learning.
- Encouraging and supporting my child's learning at home and at school.
- Making sure homework is completed and that my child devotes 30-minutes to reading at home, at least 5 days a week.
- Staying informed about my child's education by checking my child's backpack regularly for school communication, such as the weekly folder, and will respond to teachers' notes, school forms, and other communication.
- Participating 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.
- Volunteering in my child's classroom or in school activities, as my schedule allows.
- Being involved in school activities and events to build community and support academic achievement.

## **The student will:**

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

- Making an effort to get enough rest each night.
- Coming to school/class on time, unless I am sick, and put forth good effort during class/instructional time.
- Trying my hardest and working with my classmates to complete learning tasks.
- Discussing with my parents/caregivers what I learned in school and giving them, all notes and information sent home from school every day.
- Doing my homework and reading every day.