**Booker High Parent Family Engagement Plan**

Building a positive school culture and environment is one of the most important roles we play as educators. We know it is important to engage all stakeholders as often as possible to ensure their voices are heard.

We often involve teachers in decisions that will affect the entire campus through our ILT (Instructional Leadership Team). It consists of Leaders from each department and we meet at least once per month. These meetings allow us to share any new happenings occurring and how they may impact the school. ILT members are then encouraged to help troubleshoot and solve issues as their arise. It is also their responsibility to bring forth any concerns from anyone in their departments. While we always have an open door policy for staff to present any challenges they are encountering, allowing them to go through their ILT representative gives them a sense of anonymity which gives us more honest and accurate feedback.

Students are constantly encouraged to participate and provide feedback with regards to issues. A small group of students sit on the "Principal's Cabinet". These students represent the diverse backgrounds of our campus and allows us to hear directly from students what is bothering or concerning them. As with ILT, these students represent all other students and they bring forth concerns from others. In addition to students participating in this cabinet we always ensure that anything we share, various media, represents the diverse and inclusive environment we have cultivated here at BHS.

Parent involvement, while not as actively sought or received, is crucial as we build a positive school culture. Parents are encouraged to volunteer their time for various activities on campus as well as asked to join our SAC (School Advisory Council). Through this vehicle we can meet with parents and hear firsthand anything they feel would benefit the school. With our increasing Hispanic population, we have realized the importance of communicating in the native language as often as possible. We are currently in the process of having all of our documents translated into Spanish and important messages shared with our families will be translated into conversational Spanish. We have many native Spanish speaking families that will appreciate and benefit from these efforts.

Community partnerships are extremely important at BHS. Through these various partnerships we have been able to keep a pulse on what is occurring in our community as well as provide time, resources, scholarships, and many other benefits to our students. At the end of the day our students live in and participate in the surrounding communities and it is important that we involve the communities to help us guide and shape our students.

There are specific activities and programs that we utilize throughout the year on our campus to help foster a positive climate on campus. One of our most impactful programs has been our Renaissance. We use this to recognize those who have done a good job academically and show them their efforts have not gone unnoticed. To pull off such a large event it requires support from all stakeholders. Teachers provide support during the event and allow us to shave off some instructional time to accommodate for Renaissance. Parents

volunteer to help provide support for the event and community partners often donate either money or items for our celebrations.

In addition to Renaissance this past year we really put an emphasis on SEL (Social and Emotional Learning). While SEL was rolled out specific for our students we realized there were many parallels with our staff. We utilized the trainings to ensure staff worked with and took the time to understand the importance of working with their students on a social and emotional level. While doing this we realized we could do the same in our work as admin with teachers, they need to feel valued and part of the conversation while also taking their feelings into consideration. Obviously, this has always been done but we were much more intentional with this as we went through SEL training for our students.

To ensure that all, remote and in-person, learners have equal access to not only content but resources and activities we are intentionally trying to plan. For example, renaissance is being tweaked so that remote students can participate even though they are not on campus. In addition to this communication with these remote families is key so we can provide any additional support they may need. We also started utilizing Homeroom this year that extends 2nd period. Teachers are able to share with their remote learners via Zoom so all students have equitable access to things going on at BHS. We have also ensured our remote learners can access all of our College and Career Readiness resources through our CCR website. They can access up to date information on scholarships, colleges, and all other pertinent details needed to be successful in their transition to the next phase of their life.

Booker High provides Parent and Family Engagement materials and trainings designed to provide assistance to parents and families in understanding challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, how to monitor a child’s progress, and how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children at convenient, flexible times such as mornings and evenings as well as at-home/attendance zone visits to fulfill the school’s mission and support the needs of students. Additionally, technology including social media and virtual meeting programs (Zoom, Teams, etc.) promote participation and awareness through live and recorded sessions to accommodate varying schedules. In addition, the district and school website contain links, resources, and materials, such as parent guides, study guides, practice assessments, student performance materials, and training to help parents and families work with their children to improve achievement.

The full text and summary of this Schoolwide Improvement Plan may be found online or as a hard copy by request. The Summary is available in English and Spanish.

Parent and families are regularly invited to attend Booker High’s SAC to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children. Booker High responds to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible as evidenced by meeting minutes and notes. If this schoolwide improvement plan is not satisfactory to parents, parents/families are encouraged to submit such comments in writing so that the school can document and submit any parents’ comments.