

## Parent and Family Engagement at Venice Elementary School

Venice Elementary School values the involvement of our families and community stakeholders and views their impact as integral to the school's overall success. Our school, in conjunction with our PTO, hosts many family events that are designed to increase multi-generational family engagement and promote a positive school culture for both our in-person families and our remote families. Furthermore, many of our family meetings are broadcast live to encourage the participation of those families that are not able to attend. Our family events are held at varying times throughout the year, including before, during, and after school. In addition, our staff engages in regular communication with our families to ensure that the academic, social, and emotional expectations have been clearly communicated. These communications take place in person, via the telephone, and through digital means. In addition to individual teacher communications, VES hosts a Meet Your Teacher event at the beginning of the school year (this year necessitated a virtual event), as well as an Virtual Open House (Grades 4-5) and Virtual Conference Sessions (Grades K-3) approximately 30 days after the start of the year. This is yet another opportunity for our families to meet with the teacher and learn about the expectations for the school year. When allowable, VES encourages our families to volunteer in school and with home projects as much as possible. Our website, Facebook, Instagram, Class Dojo and school App also serve as methods to increase family engagement. Regular updates are provided by our teachers and administration to ensure that our families are informed of the events happening at school and in ways they can support their students.

This year, VES is joining with our district to provide virtual events designed to support our remote learners during this virtual environment. Multiple parent/family engagement events are provided for families of remote students, and our teachers are engaging in daily communications with our students and families in an attempt to ensure their connection during this remote learning period. A focus on building a strong classroom community for both remote and in-person learners has been a priority this school year.

Family involvement is critical to our students' success, and we are grateful for the high level of involvement that currently exists at our school.