

Westward Elementary International Baccalaureate Magnet School

2019 – 2020 Parent and Family Engagement Plan Summary

Mission Statement

Westward Elementary International Baccalaureate Magnet School is committed to involving families in shared decision-making and encouraging families to become active participants in their child's educational process by effectively communicating instructional goals, creating an environment that is inviting for families, and establishing the school as the center of the community.

Annual Title I Meeting

Each year, families are invited to attend this meeting at the beginning of the school year to learn more about our schoolwide Title I Program and the requirements of Title I. At this meeting, there are opportunities to review many of the documents that guide our work with families and help shape our Title I program. Families are also encouraged to provide their input and ask questions at the meeting.

Accessibility for all Families

We encourage all families to attend meetings and events and will provide the support needed to ensure our families are able to participate. We provide translated documents and interpreters, childcare (at some events), accessible meeting space, and multiple meeting days and times based on family feedback. Please notify the school if other assistance is needed. We want all families to be a part of their child's education!

Parent and Family Engagement Activities

Based on family survey input, we will provide the following activities to assist families in understanding the state curriculum and assessments to help families improve their children's academic achievement:

- **Parent Data Meetings and Striving Panthers Data Meetings** will be implemented for families to learn strategies to help their children at home. Additionally, parents will learn the academic strengths of their students, as well as areas that may need improvement.
- **Math Nights** will be implemented to assist families in understanding the state math standards and assessments to help families improve their children's academic achievement in the area of math.
- **Literacy Nights** will be implemented to assist families in understanding the state ELA (English Language Arts) standards and assessments to help families improve their children's academic achievement in the area of language arts.

Shared Decision Making

Families will be invited to many meetings throughout the year to receive academic information and provide input on ways the school, families, and students can share responsibility for student success. This information will be used to create the school's Parent and Family Engagement Plan (PFEP) and School-Parent Compact. Annually families will review the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Survey results, the Schoolwide Plan, and data reports to determine necessary changes. Use of parent and family engagement funds will also be discussed. Families will receive information in a timely manner and in appropriate languages.

Communication

We reviewed family feedback to decide how we will communicate with families. Based on your input, we will communicate in many ways, including our webpage and Facebook; through emails, text messages, and phone

calls from teachers and school administration, some teachers may communicate using Classroom Dojo; by flyers sent home with your student; and through notes in your student’s agenda book. If you find that communication doesn’t seem to be getting home, please let us know. Our goal is to keep communication between home and school open and ongoing.

Volunteers

Families are encouraged to volunteer at our school to help students and teachers be successful. To find out more about volunteer opportunities, please call our school’s volunteer coordinator, Mrs. Beneby-Coleman (Ms. BB). We’d love to have your help.

Our Plan

This Parent and Family Engagement Plan was written in partnership with families and other members of our school community. We welcome any suggestions you may have to improve our family engagement practices. There are many ways to do so. If you have comments now, you may write them on the lines below. You are also encouraged to attend our annual Parent Input Meeting in the spring and complete the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Survey sent home each year.

Please sign below to let us know you’ve read the summary. The signed portion should be returned to your child’s homeroom/classroom teacher.



I have reviewed the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan Summary.

Family Member Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student’s Name: _____ Date: _____

Comments: _____
