

2018-2019

Parent and Family Engagement Plan

Wendell P. Williams Elementary School

The administration, staff and parents of Wendell P. Williams Elementary School believe that parents and families provide the primary educational environment for children. Parents are vital and necessary partners in the academic success of students. This policy has been jointly developed and agreed upon by the Wendell P. William Elementary School and parents of students served in the school pursuant to Title I.

Wendell P. Williams Elementary School will convene annual meetings at a convenient time for parents to evaluate this policy. These meetings will be held August 17, 2018 at 8:50 am and 3:45 pm, and September 21, 2018 at 8:50 am and 5:00 pm. The school's Parent and Family Engagement Plan, developed by the Wendell P. Williams Lead Team and the School Organizational Team, will be distributed in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand. The Parent and Family Engagement Plan and Annual Meeting information will also be made available to the community through the School Web Site and in the school office. Parents are asked to participate in the process of developing the policy through surveys and input from parent meetings.

The District-Wide Parent and Student Survey Results for 2017 – 2018 will be distributed to parents during Title I Parent Meetings and posted to the School Web Site. Parent concerns will be addresses through increased communication. Communication from CCSD will be posted to the school website and sent home with students; parents will be encouraged to participate in the School Organizational Team; and, information regarding school generated funds and important decisions will be shared with parents via ParentLink, Class Dojo, newsletters, and parents will be encouraged to participate in parent meetings and the School Organization Team.

The Survey results show that most parents agree or strongly agree that:

- Teachers care about students
- Parents are provided information about curriculum
- The school is welcoming to parents, involves them in school events, sees parents as partners in education, and values parent's input and opinions
- Parents are provided effective and useful communication including prompt responses to phone calls, messages, and emails
- The school is a safe environment for students
- The school sets clear rules for behavior and does a good job to prevent bullying
- The school is well equipped and maintained

The Survey results show the following negative trends:

- 22% of the surveys indicated that parents do not receive effective or useful communication from the District
- 42% of the surveys indicate that parents are not informed on how fundraising monies are used

- 22% of the surveys indicate that parents' input is not actively sought before making important decisions

We will use the data provided through the District Wide Survey to modify our Parent Family Engagement Policy as needed. To increase parent participation in completing the surveys, the school will make computers accessible to parents and will share the importance of the survey to planning next steps at SOT and parent meetings.

Wendell P. Williams Elementary School will involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, school performance plan, and Parent and Family Engagement Plan. Monthly meetings will be held in order to build the schools and parents' capacity for strong performance. A menu of proposed trainings will be presented to parents in September 2017 and throughout the year. Parent surveys will be conducted to establish the areas of need and topics.

The Educational Involvement Accords are integrated into the registration process through Infinite Campus. Parents must review Accords prior to completing their child's registration. Administrators and teachers will have access to the Accords whenever needed for parent/student conferences or other occasions.

2018 - 2019

Wendell P. William ES believes communication between home and school is vital to student achievement. The school communicates with parents through Infinite Campus, Parent Link, Class Dojo, newsletters, flyers, and letters. All information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities will be sent to parents in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. Translators will be available to parents to facilitate communication between parents and school administration, office personnel, teachers, during parent involvement activities, and Parent-Student-Teacher-Academic Planning Time. Child care, as reasonable, and parent comment or suggestion sheets will be provided to support parental involvement activities and the needs of our families. Any concerns expressed by parents will be calendared for future parent trainings and meetings. Every reasonable effort will be made to provide child care so that families can attend important events including Parent-Student-Teacher-Academic-Planning-Time.

Community resources are utilized to address parent and student needs. The school works closely with the Doolittle Community Center, City of Las Vegas, Safekey, Green Our Planet, Create a Change Now, Goodie Two Shoes, Eye Care for Kids, Three Square Food Bank, Americorp, Catholic Charities, MBA Cares, Safe School Community, Yin Zhin, Breakfast with Books, One Luv Motorcycle Club, Las Vegas Review-Journal, Life Change Ministries, Public Education Foundation, Title I FACES and Andre Agassi Boys and Girls Club.

Wendell P. Williams Elementary School is dedicated to providing high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment enabling students to meet the Nevada Academic Content Standards.

The administration and staff of Wendell P. Williams Elementary School will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve student achievement and foster parental involvement. Assistance will be provided to parents, as appropriate, in understanding:

- Title I requirements
- Strategies to use at home to improve student proficiency in reading, writing, and mathematics.
- Core program overviews
- Nevada Academic Content Standards
- Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium (SBAC) and Criterion Referenced Test (CRT) results (2018)
- School Performance Plan based on the Nevada Growth Model
- A calendar overview of dates for state and local assessments and strategies for preparing student for these assessments.
- State: Brigance (Kinder), MAP Growth (K – 3), Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium (SBAC)
- Local: Evaluate, AIMSweb and Classroom Assessments
- Overview of progress reports, report cards, state and local assessment results
- Information on how to read and comprehend progress reports, report cards and assessment results
- How to use Infinite Campus to monitor their student’s progress
- How to seek assistance from Community in Schools as well as the Social Worker and the School Counselor

The school has a Title I FACES Center that affords parents the opportunity to use computers, check out materials and receive training. Pre-kindergarten hosts two parent meetings per month to provide early literacy strategies and materials. The Instructional Coach and Learning Strategists offer monthly parent trainings in literacy, math, science, and writing.

Wendell P. Williams’ administration, licensed personnel and support staff will participate in professional development, with the assistance of parents, to educate staff in:

- The value and utility of contributions of parents;
- How to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners;
- Implementing and coordinating parent programs; and,
- Building ties between parents and the school.

Parent involvement activities will include opportunities for parents to volunteer and be involved in school activities. Parent involvement activities at the school site include but are not limited to:

- Staff development and parent education;
- Home support for their children’s education;
- School decision-making through parent meeting, surveys, office suggestion box, and Principal’s Parent Advisory Council;
- School communications through flyers, newsletters, calendars, and Infinite Campus;
- Pre-Kindergarten Parent Meetings;
- Grade Level Parent Meetings;
- Special recognition assemblies;
- Seasonal student performances; and,
- Family Academic Events.

The administration will coordinate with the Title I Family Center, Pre-kindergarten and the 21st Century Community Learning Center, to the extent feasible and appropriate, to coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

With regard to professional development/SBC, Wendell P. Williams' administration will, with the assistance of parents, educate teachers and support staff in:

- The value and utility of contributions of parents;
- How to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners;
- Implementing and coordinating parent programs; and,
- Building ties between parents and the school.
- Schools and parents will cultivate relationships with additional members of the community in order to promote and effectively increase educational opportunities for children. Together, parents, educators and community members will join efforts toward identifying and promoting community resources and innovative programs for strengthening schools, families and student learning.
- Wendell P. Williams Elementary School will provide reasonable support for parental involvement activities as requested by parents.

Epstein's Model of Community and Parent Involvement

Type I: Parenting

- Assist families with parenting skills, family support, understanding child and adolescent development, and setting home conditions to support learning at each age and grade level. Obtain information from families to help schools understand children's strengths, talents, and needs, and families' backgrounds, cultures, and goals, for their children.
- Vision: Provide families with information that builds a positive home environment that supports academic achievement and learning. Provide parents with parenting, academic, technology and English as a Second Language classes or workshops. The school and parent newsletters will feature community resources, strategies to use at home, and outreach organizations.

Type 2: Communicating

- Communicate with families about school programs and student progress using school-to-home and home-to-school communications. Create two-way channels so that families can easily contact teachers and administrators.
- Vision: Increase school-to-home and home-to-school communications through traditional and innovative forms of communication including notices, memos, phone calls, progress reports, conferences, open-house, classroom, school and parent newsletters, and local radio spots; and, continue to employ Spanish-speaking paraprofessionals to translate communications. Encourage faculty and staff to call or visit parents a minimum of three times a year.

Type 3: Volunteering

- Improve recruitment, training, activities, and schedules to involve families as volunteers and audiences at the school or in other locations to support students' and the school's programs.

- Vision: Increase parent involvement to a minimum of one parent per classroom. Encourage parents to volunteer at school. Encourage families to attend student performances, assemblies, sporting events, and celebrations.

Type 4: Learning at Home

- Involve families with their children in academic learning activities at home including homework, goal setting, and other curriculum-related activities and decisions.

- Vision: Faculty and staff will guide families in monitoring, assisting, and interacting with their children at home. At-home learning activities will be coordinated with class work and contribute to success in school. Learning at home includes parent-initiated, student-initiated and teacher-directed discussions about homework and other school subjects. Get information out to parents and students about curriculum, school-related activities, and ideas for better involvement of the parents in those activities.

Type 5: Decision Making

- Include families as participants in school decisions, governance, and advocacy activities through PTO, committees, councils, and other parent organizations. Assist family representatives to obtain information from and give information to those they represent.

- Vision: Parents and members of the community shall participate in parent-teacher-student organizations, the Principal's Advisory Council, and the School Improvement Team.

Type 6: Collaborating with the Community

- Coordinate the work and resources of community businesses, agencies, cultural and civic organizations, and other groups to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning and development. Enable students, staff, and families to contribute services to the community.

- Vision: The school in collaboration with families and students shall establish connections with agencies, businesses, cultural groups, and community organizations to share responsibility for educating children and insuring their future success. To increase awareness of the cultural and educational resources available in this community.