

Berkeley L. Bunker ES

Parent & Family Engagement Policy

2020 – 2021 Academic School Year

This policy has been jointly developed and agreed upon by Bunker Elementary School and parents of students served in the school pursuant to Title 1. Our Parent Engagement Policy regarding meetings is subject to change depending upon the Governors directives and CCSD mandate on safe meetings and gatherings.

The Parent & Family Engagement Policy (PFEP)

Bunker Elementary School will convene an annual meeting, at a time convenient for parents, to evaluate this policy, review the current school year's Title I budget plan, and go over the rights and responsibilities of parents. Meetings were held on September 22, 2020, and October 6, 2020. The school's Parent & Family Engagement Policy developed by administration, PLC leadership team, and SOT members will be distributed in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand. The Parentlink system, Class Dojo, school website and a school flyer was utilized to encourage parents to attend the meeting. Announcements were made during the morning opening celebrations to advertise the annual meeting. The Parent & Family Engagement Policy is available to the community. A copy of the approved PFEP has been placed on the school's website and a hard copy was sent home in brochure form. The completed plan is also housed in the front office Title 1 binder for review. Parents not in attendance at the annual meeting have access to the Annual Meeting information and the Parent Family Engagement Policy on the school's website and will be sent home in a brochure.

Covid-19 Impact

The school closures have significantly inhibited the school's ability to function in the traditional manner. Statewide testing and accountability is currently undergoing review by The Nevada Department of Education and the Federal Government. Bunker will update the parents when new guidelines are released. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, Bunker ES will need to gradually adjust our lives to new circumstances and learn how to continue to engage with parents and families until such time as it is deemed safe that we gather in person. As a result, all parent and family activities will be shifted to a virtual platform in an effort to continue to provide resources and engage and collaborate with all stakeholders during these challenging times. The administration will continue to present monthly informational videos for the website, Class Dojo and Facebook pages to keep lines of communication open. The school remains open daily for the deployment of technology, instructional materials and school desks. The different avenues of communication to our families is the school website, Parentlink messages and emails, Class Dojo, Facebook and Twitter pages, Infinite Campus and Canvas. These forms of communication are available to all of our families as well as the telephone and home visits that are conducted daily. While the effects of Covid-19 has impacted our ability to interact with our families face to face, we are committed to continuing to build positive relationships with our families regardless of our circumstances.

The School Performance Plan

Bunker Elementary School consistently involves parents in the writing of the school performance plan. Parents are invited to the monthly PLC leadership meetings and play an important role in the development, implementation and monitoring of the school improvement process, the Title I plan, and the Parent & Family Engagement Policy. Monthly SOT meetings address school improvement initiatives and encourage productive discourse to align the school community goals and determine action steps.

The District Wide survey was analyzed by the PLC Leadership team and later by the SOT team on 9/22/2020. The results were posted on the website after the SOT meeting. The top three celebrations and the top three priorities were included in the priority goals and vision for the Family Learning Center. The results of the survey were uploaded to the school website and shared at two parent meetings and made accessible on the school's website in English and Spanish. Based on the data report 41 parents responded to the survey. The data reflects an overall satisfaction rate with the school (See Attached). As a school staff and parent community we are addressing the areas of concern by focusing our efforts on building community through the Bunker United Family Learning Center and family learning opportunities that are meaningful, relevant and applicable in the home setting. Ongoing support for families will be provided by CCSD as well as community partners and school staff. The addition of the Bunker United Family Learning Center will provide access to families that will increase the number of parents responding in the 2020-2021 school year.

The Educational Involvement Accord

The Educational Involvement Accord is integrated into the registration process through Infinite Campus. Parents must review the Accord prior to completing their child's registration. Administrators and teachers will have access to the Accord whenever needed for parent/student conferences or other occasions. The Accord is used as a tool to help build an educational partnership with the families as they work as a team to increase student achievement.

Building Parent Capacity

Administration and staff will assist parents in gaining an understanding of the standards-based curriculum and the standards-based report card; the requirements of the Nevada School Performance Framework, data from the Clark County School Performance Framework and Title I; interpretation of local and State assessment data; progress monitoring of their students' academic achievement; how to be a partner with the school to assist their child in increasing their achievement levels; and how to access the NDE site. This will be accomplished by offering parent training throughout the year.

Bunker will expand the scope of our family learning lab that parents are invited to utilize during the school day. The lab contains computers to access Rosetta Stone, learning websites, Adult ESL classes, parenting class, PreK groups, resume writing and job searches. Additionally, parent training conducted by staff and

the Family and Community Engagement Services (FACES) Department will support school improvement goals and provide families with strategies to best support learning at home.

In an effort to impact family literacy, the Bunker library will be open before and after school for families to access books and resources.

Parent Workshops and Trainings

The Bunker staff offer frequent family engagement opportunities to strengthen the family efficacy academically and socially.

- Academic Tutoring and Homework Club
- Infinite Campus Training (Parent Portal)
- Basic Math Facts Support and Student videos on website
- Parent Academic Workshops, Math, STEAM workshops and Community events
- Academic Nights (ELA and Math/Science and Social Studies)
- Virtual Meet and Greet (August 7, 2020)
- SOT monthly meetings
- ELL Master Plan meetings for parents (ALC-M Year 3)
- FACES University of Family Learning Workshops
- Make and Take Sessions supporting strategies presented in workshops as an extension
- Grade level meetings for parents (MyOn, grade specific strategy trainings)
- Parent-Student-Teacher Academic Planning Time

School Information/Communication

Infinite Campus parent portal, newsletters in English and Spanish, and Bunker United meetings are designed to keep the lines of communication open and to enlist the support of the community in our efforts to increase student achievement. Parent input is crucial on our PLC leadership team to help guide the decision-making process to reflect the will of all stakeholders.

All written communication from the school is provided in English and Spanish. Bunker ES has bilingual staff to assist in meeting the language needs of families ensuring that all families have equal understanding of information shared. Infinite Campus is utilized as an effective tool to inform parents of student progress, attendance and school information. Additionally, Class newsletters, teacher websites and classroom apps and social media are utilized as another form of communication between home and school.

High-Quality Curriculum and Instruction

The Bunker staff guarantees to provide a world-class education for the students. High expectations and curriculum alignment will ensure that the State curriculum, State testing, and the teacher's instructional programs are all in alignment. Teachers will differentiate instruction, utilize scientifically researched-based strategies, and develop lessons for engagement to ensure that students learn at an optimal level to meet or exceed the State standards. Our philosophy at Bunker is to collaboratively partner with our families and include them on school achievement goals. We provide training that is specific to standards and provide parents with appropriate strategies that can be easily implemented. Parents as teaching partners will yield the greatest success for student achievement.

Parent Volunteer Program (After schools reopen)

All parents are encouraged to volunteer at the school as teacher assistants, lunchroom helpers, tutors, and role models. The administrative team frequently shares parental involvement research and its correlation to student achievement with the families to assist them with working with their children at home and to motivate and inspire their participation at school if it is feasible to do so. Parents are asked to serve as chaperones, guest speakers, classroom and event volunteers. Our goal is to grow our parents into parent leaders through the opportunities on campus. Bunker United will meet monthly to plan and organize events based on parent interest and needs.

Staff Professional Development

Professional development at Bunker is a priority. As a school community we identified a need to strengthen the home school connection. In order to strengthen this connection, we will start with self-reflection on our core beliefs as a staff. The Bunker Family Learning Center is staffed with a teacher family assistant who is working with the Family and Community Engagement Services (FACES) department of the Clark County School District, community partners and administration to develop professional learning opportunities. These opportunities are made available to the staff on our designated professional development days which are Wednesday mornings during the distance learning phase. Bunker Elementary is committed to using the PTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the focus of professional learning. The focus topics of the PD include strategies on building and nurturing relationships with families, meaningful and respectful communication, inspiring parent leadership, fostering a culturally responsive school environment and equitable opportunities for all.

Our Wellness Team provided our staff with research on Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. The staff collaborated and reflected on the emotional effects the school closures have had on families and what our next steps would be. As a school community we brainstormed ways to promote self-care and engage families in positive ways to give them some sense of normalcy. The Wellness Team continues to offer support to staff as requested due to the varied needs of specific family situations.

We have continued to support our families with distance education by offering virtual English classes, one on one tutoring sessions on navigation of Canvas, one on one tutoring of technology navigation, parenting classes through Boys Town and multiple workshops and sessions on how to be successful during distance learning. At Bunker, we focus on responding to the needs of our families and designing sessions based on the information gathered to ensure that what is provided is relevant, applicable and builds family efficacy.

Coordination with Other Programs

Bunker has a community-based preschool that offers educational opportunities for 'typical peers' to become role models for special needs students. Parental involvement is a requirement for participation in this program. The administration also makes home visits to assess needs and develop positive relationships with the families to plan and set goals for future academic growth of the students. Information on this and other programs at Bunker ES are listed on the school's website.

Supporting Parent Needs

When students are allowed to return to the school campus, childcare is provided at all Bunker United meetings to allow greater access for the parents to participate. An interpreter is also provided to ensure that our Spanish speaking parents can understand and contribute in their native language. Bunker purchased the headset system to allow translators to work synchronously to accommodate English and Spanish speakers at the same time. Parent surveys, input and feedback sections of the newsletter, and providing a welcoming open door policy are provided to ensure that parents are partners with the school staff. Information from this survey is presented to the PLC leadership team and Bunker United for potential implementation at the school level to improve practices and to expand our inclusive practices. As a school community, we will address the needs of parents in regards to home or school concerns by providing resources. The resources include but are not limited to, the Family Learning Center, School Counselor, Social Worker and community partners such as FACES, Boys Town and Parenting Project. Participation in the Annual District Wide Survey is advertised and supported by the school staff.

Parents have access to the computer lab and library as a resource in the education of their children. Google classroom, MyOn electronic library, ReadyGen, and other computer-based programs are provided for home use. Parent volunteers are trained in how to make effective tools for students such as comprehension story puppets, Investigations math games, and so forth. Parents have access to check out books and materials from our resource library that target diverse learners. Parent classes on how to increase student achievement in their children have been planned and are part of the current School Performance Plan. This proved very successful last year and we desire to continue to provide these opportunities for our families. Our school library also has a growing selection of bilingual books available for students and parents to check out and read together in a language that the parents understand.