



*West Feliciana Parish*

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## Bains Lower Elementary Family Engagement Policy 2021-2022

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Bains Lower Elementary receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree upon with, and distribute to parents of participating children a written family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school. The policy establishes the school's expectations for family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific family engagement activities.

Family engagement means the participation of parents and families in a regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring –

- A. Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- B. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- C. Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child

Bains Lower Elementary agrees to implement the following requirements:

### **A. ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING**

At the beginning of each school year, Bains Lower Elementary will host a Family Engagement Meeting at a convenient time for parents. An email, callout, and letter will be sent out to all parents to encourage them to attend. During the meeting,

parents will be inform about the Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school's parental involvement policy, the school-wide plan, and the school-parent compact. Parents will be given an opportunity to give feedback and input on the school-parent compact during the meeting. For parents who are not able to attend the meeting, a copy of the PowerPoint will be emailed. Once parents are informed about the school and district policies and the school-parent compact, they will be asked to volunteer to serve on a committee to review the feedback from all parents and finalize the documents. When the process is complete, all parents will be emailed a copy of the updated policies and school-parent compact.

**B. FLEXIBLE NUMBER OF MEETINGS**

Bains Lower Elementary will offer a flexible number of family engagement meetings at convenient times for families, such as meetings in the morning or evening. Meetings include synergy assemblies, family nights, student-led conferences, parent conferences, etc.

**C. JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

Bains Lower Elementary will have a survey at the end of each family engagement meeting to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in planning, review, and improvement of programs. This information will be used to improve the following meeting.

**D. COMMUNICATION**

Bains Lower Elementary will provide parents of participating children timely information about programs under Title I, including:

- a.) a description and explanation of the curriculum in use,
- b.) forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress,
- c.) achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards, and
- d.) if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meeting to formulate suggestions and participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicable/possible.

Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, will be sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

**E. DISSENSION PROCESS**

Bains Lower Elementary will submit any comments/concerns to Zanovia Curtis, Supervisor of Federal Programs/Early Childhood and/or Lee Coleman, Supervisor of Student Services, if the school-wide plan and/or parent and family engagement policy is not satisfactory to

parents. The phone number is 225-635-3898 and the email addresses are as follows:

Zanovia Curtis –[curtisz@wfpsb.org](mailto:curtisz@wfpsb.org)

Lee Colman –[colemanl@wfpsb.org](mailto:colemanl@wfpsb.org)

#### **F. SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

During the annual Family Engagement meeting, Bains Lower Elementary will review and discuss the school compact. The compact will outline how the entire school staff, parents, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. The compact will describe not only the school's responsibility in providing high quality instruction and curriculum, but the student and parent responsibilities for meeting and supporting the learning processes. The compact will address how parents have reasonable access to staff, receive frequent reports on their progress, and have the opportunity to volunteer and observe in the classroom.

#### **G. BUILD CAPACITY OF PARENTS**

Bains Lower Elementary will build the parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective involvement of parents and families and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through following:

- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy and math trainings and using technology
- Provide assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - The State's academic content standards,
  - The State's student academic achievement standards,
  - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
  - The requirements of Title I, Part A
  - How to monitor their child's progress, and
  - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children
- Educate school personnel, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of the contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.
- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs which encourage and support parents to fully participate in the education of their children.

## **H. ACCESSIBILITY**

Bains Lower Elementary will survey parents and accommodate parents to be sure that all parents and family members are provided information and school reports in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understands. Also, all parents will be provided an opportunity to carrying out the family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members with limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children).