



BARTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Barton Elementary School

2020-2021

Committee Members:

- Cuarlstine Thomas, Parent Coordinator
- Tammie Moore, Federal Programs Coordinator
- Deborah Bland, Grandparent
- Bernie Winkel, Barton Elementary School Principal
- Sherry House, Parent Facilitator
- Avis Donahoo, Parent
- Minnie Thomas, Parent
- Wyatt Donahoo, Grandparent
- Yvonne Wooten, Barton Elementary School Dean of Students
- Kim Williams, Barton Elementary School Counselor
- Stacy Hardy, Parent/Technology Coordinator
- Emma Lucas, Community Member
- Macy Ward, Student
- Parker Nichols, Student

1. List various communication strategies used in your school to provide additional information to parents to increase Parent and Family Engagement in supporting classroom instruction.

Barton Elementary communicates with families about school programs and student progress through effective school-to-home and home-to-school communications. A monthly newsletter is distributed to parents. It includes school news, a calendar of school activities, and parenting tips related to school achievement such as homework tips and organization skills. School Status is used to communicate positive messages about students. Communication strategies also include the use of student handbook, school webpage, Facebook, School Marque, and SchoolCast system to communicate with parents and the community. Technological communication facilitates a system of support for all parents. The technological system facilitates the process required in the translation and acquisition of English. Also, a parent can access their child's grades using a pin number they receive at the beginning of the school year. Parents may use e-mail to communicate with members of the school staff, and can call the school to schedule a conference. All school personnel can be reached at 870-572-7294 during normal school hours.

2. List the proposed parent meetings, conferences, and activities scheduled regularly throughout this year. List the dates providing flexible meeting times that you have planned to increase parent and family engagement. (Must include the 2 state-mandated Parent-Teacher Conferences each year.)

The following is a list of the dates, times, and scheduled activities for parents during the 2020-2021 school year:

<i>August 20, 2020</i>	<i>Virtual Open House for Parents/Students (12:00-6:30 pm)</i>
<i>September 14, 2020</i>	<i>Annual Title I Night/Report to the Public (6:00 pm)</i>
<i>October 15, 2020</i>	<i>Virtual Parent/Teacher Conference (2:30 pm -7:00 pm)</i>
<i>March 12, 2021</i>	<i>Virtual Parent/Teacher Conference (2:30 pm -7:00 pm)</i>
<i>May 00, 2021</i>	<i>May Day (subject to change due to weather)</i>

3. How will your school provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities? (Must include state mandated parent training.)

Barton Elementary will provide a list of volunteer opportunities and solicit ideas for other types of volunteer efforts during Open-House orientation of parents and Parent/Teacher Conferences. Handouts encouraging parents to get involved will be given to parents or sent home to provide parents with volunteer guidelines, etiquette, and school safety. This information will provide information about volunteer opportunities for parents to become involved in school activities. Also, the parent coordinator will attend Parents Organization/PTO meetings as an observer, and serve as a point of contact for parents.

4. How will your school work with parents to create a School-Parent-Compact?

The school staff, parents, and students will develop a School-Parent-Student Compact. This Compact will outline how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards. The student, parent, teacher, and principal will sign the Compact. The Compact is reviewed and updated each year.

5. How will your school provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the school wide school improvement plan, and the Annual Title I Meeting to engage them in the decision-making processes regarding the school's Title I, Part-A Program?

Barton Elementary School will engage parents in decision making about the allocation of its Title I, Part A funds for Parent and Family Engagement.

- District staff members actively recruit alumni to create an Alumni Advisory Commission to utilize community resources, provide advice and guidance for school improvement.
- The school shall enable the formation of a Parent and Family Engagement Committee to foster parental and community engagement within the school.
- Barton Elementary School will coordinate and integrate Parent and Family Engagement strategies with other programs to enhance home-school and community partnerships that are critical to students' academic success.

6. How will your school provide resources for parents?

Parents may visit our Parent Center, use or check out educational materials, use the computer to check grades, and visit educational websites. The Barton Parent Center will be open 8:00 am - 3:00 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays. The school will provide a link on the school's website to the school's Parent and Family Engagement Plan, a survey for volunteer interests, the school's compact with recommended roles for parents/teachers/students and school. Resource material will be available in the Parent Center with suggestions of ways parents can become involved in their child's education. Parents and teachers will communicate through the use of (notes, phone calls, e-mail, etc.). Cuarlstine Thomas will make these materials available in the parent center. During Parent-Teacher conferences, information from the center will be made available to the parents. Mrs. Thomas will be responsible for setting up this informational table. The parent coordinator, Cuarlstine Thomas, can be contacted at 870-714-9927 during normal school hours on Mondays and Wednesdays. Barton Elementary will promote and support responsible parenting. The school shall as funds are available, purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials regarding responsible parenting for the parent center. Barton Elementary will include in the school's policy handbook, the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions. The principal shall designate one certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator. (Bernie Winkel)

7. How will your school engage parents in the evaluation of your Parent and Family Engagement efforts?

Barton Elementary will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the Title I, Part-A Program's Parent and Family Engagement efforts through an annual evaluation. Parents will complete a comprehensive needs assessment survey. The Parent and Family Engagement Committee, made up of parents and school staff will determine the effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Plan, and make changes if warranted. While collecting evidence about satisfaction with the program and the school's efforts to increase Parent and Family Engagement, data interpretation will be a part of the evaluation. The survey will also collect specific information on engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth. (Cuarlstine Thomas)

8. How will your school use the parent interest surveys to select, plan, and implement Parent and Family Engagement activities that will be offered throughout the year?

Barton Elementary will ask parents to fill out a Parent Interest Survey at Open-House or at Parent/Teacher Conferences. The information from parents will reflect activities they feel will be most beneficial in efforts to support their child academically. Barton Elementary will use the results of the Parent Interest Survey to plan ongoing Parent and Family Engagement activities for the year. Activities that were suggested by the parents will be used and reviewed as part of the annual Parent and Family Engagement Plan evaluation. An annual parent survey will also be given out to parents or accessed online.

9. When will your school plan the Annual Title I Meeting that must be conducted separately? (It CANNOT be held in conjunction with any other meetings or activities.)

Barton Elementary will conduct an Annual Title I meeting for parents of the students who participate in the Title I, Part-A Program in October, 2021, 6:00 p. m. Tammie Moore and Cuarlstine Thomas will provide the information shared.