

# Bartlett Elementary School



## School-Level Parental Involvement Plan/Policy

Title I, Section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) requires that each local educational agency (LEA) receiving Title I, Part A funds develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of participating children a written parental involvement plan/policy.

### Parent Involvement Goals

Bartlett Elementary envisions a quality education for all by providing a safe and nurturing environment that enables every student to attain academic proficiency in all subjects and to become productive decision makers and technologically literate learners. To achieve our goals, we encourage a strong home-school partnership where all students, parents, and staff will work together in the educational process at Bartlett Elementary. Bartlett Elementary encourages parent involvement through the following activities:

#### **I. Increase communication between families, the district, and school, both verbally and in writing, using a variety of strategies and methods.**

##### **Strategies:**

A. Schoolwide Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held at least twice yearly to inform parents of their child's progress in school. This includes discussions concerning academic performance and assistance with understanding their child's individual classroom grades and test results to address specific academic needs of their child. Parent conferences may also be held to discuss concerns in behavior and strategies that will assist with on task behavior.

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held at the end of the first nine-weeks and the end of the third nine-weeks for all the schools. Conferences this year are scheduled September 24, 2020 and February 11, 2021. Teachers are also available to meet via parent request during other times.

B. BES Supply Drop Off and Drive Through Meet and Greet was held in the fall and offered parents and students the opportunity to drop off necessary supplies, meet the teacher, and purchase BES panther spirit-ware. Parents were also able to receive information concerning

buses, lunches, and car rider drop off and pick-up. This afforded parents and students the opportunity to meet the teacher and put a face with the name.

C. A Curriculum Night will be held at the beginning of each school year. The purpose of curriculum night is for parents and guardians to meet with classroom teachers and or specialist to learn about grade level curriculum and expectations for the school year. Due to Covid-19 guidelines and restrictions, these meetings were held via Zoom conference and were recorded by the teacher to send out to parents in case they were unable to attend the original meeting.

D. An annual Title 1 informational meeting will be held via Zoom in September to communicate information concerning the Title 1 Program and parent involvement opportunities for the school year. All parents of all students will be invited and encouraged to attend. Parents/families will be informed of their school's participation in the Title I Program, and the right of the parents/families to be involved.

This session will be recorded and posted to the BES website for parents unable to attend the original meeting. A google doc will be provided so that parents can ask questions for the Title 1 Facilitator or other school representative to answer. Some of the information addressed includes:

- Purpose of the Family Engagement Initiative
- Family Engagement School Board Policy
- Title I Requirements
- Assessment Results on all State Tests (2018/2019 information)
- NCLB Waiver – Accountability Standards
- School-Parent Compact
- School Policies
- Parent Rights
- Future Family Engagement Activities

E. A digital Student Handbook is sent home during registration in the spring of each school year for the following school year to inform parents of district and school policies for enrollment, attendance, homework, safety and discipline procedures, bus routes, bus behavior, Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Parents Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Parents are required to sign and return to the child's teacher the appropriate form attached to the front of the handbook stating that they have read and discussed the handbook with their child.

F. A School-Parent Compact, a requirement of the Title I Program will be jointly developed by the Family Engagement Advisory Council that outlines how parents, the school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved 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 standards. In the fall, a brief survey was posted to the school's website and was also sent out by the teachers. This survey asked for suggestions on ways Title funds should be used as well as for suggestions on ways for families to become more involved in their child's education.

G. Parents can engage in teacher communication through interim reports, phone calls, emails, newsletters, web pages, Remind, Educators Handbook, Classroom dojo, and PowerSchool Portal. Additionally, teachers will have ongoing communication with families/parents concerning their child's successes and/or problems on a regular basis through reports, notes, letters, phone calls, awards, etc.

Report cards will be available to parents at the end of each nine-week period in the elementary and high schools. Grades for each student are posted by Monday of each week and are available on-line through PowerSchool.

Interim reports will be sent home mid-way through each nine weeks to make parents aware of student progress as well as allow parents the opportunity to request conferences and additional information to provide added supervision of student learning/homework in order to improve grades if needed.

H. Parent/family surveys and checklists will be used to gain parent input and suggestions as to the quality of parent engagement activities in the school. A suggestion box will be placed in each survey as a means to receive suggestions from parents on how to better serve children. All suggestions will be reviewed by the Title 1 facilitator or a member of the Family Engagement Team to discuss ways to improve school and family interaction.

I. Parents will read and sign the Parent/Student Compact during the registration process. This compact serves as a written agreement between the school and the parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs that identifies the activities that the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will undertake to share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

J. Virtual teachers and kindergarten teachers all introduced themselves to the parents via a telephone call prior to the first day of school. Kindergarten teachers provided parents with a picture of their classrooms since parents were not able to walk their children to class on the first day of school.

## **II. Family/Parents' opportunities for involvement in classroom, school, and district activities will be increased.**

A. Many activities will be provided at the district level and at individual schools to allow parents/families to be involved in their child's school and learning:

1. Virtual Curriculum Night
2. Family Restaurant Nights
3. Parent Volunteer Program (PTO)

- All schools will encourage parents to volunteer in the school or in school fund raising activities.

4. Volunteer Recognition Breakfast/Lunch.

- Parent volunteers are usually recognized in the spring of each school year for a volunteer breakfast/lunch. This serves as a token of appreciation for their time and commitment to the school.

5. Parents will be given the opportunity to become involved in their child's education by participating in the following activities and programs if Covid-19 restrictions do not prohibit them:

- Grandparents Day
- Special Student Programs
- Veterans' Day Programs
- PTO Meetings
- Awards/Honors Day/ PBIS Celebrations
- Geography/Spelling Bees
- Beta Club induction

B. Parents will be invited to support their children through attending various school events including student programs, performances, assemblies, sports events, etc. Due to current Covid-19 restrictions, we are unsure when/ if these events can be held.

C. All parents of virtual students were provided with a link to BCS virtual resources at <https://bartlettschools.org/apps/pages/BCSVirtualAcademy>

**III. Parents/families will be given increased assistance by district/school staff to gain the knowledge and skills in parenting and fostering conditions to assist and support their children's learning and development at home.**

A. Since parents are a child's first and most important teacher, they will be given parental support for their child's academic success in school. Parents are encouraged to assist with homework and to read with their child each night for 15-30 minutes.

B. A monthly event calendar will be maintained on each school's website.

C. Parents will have access to pamphlets and brochures with suggestions for successful parenting skills. The Bartlett City Schools website has a link to additional parenting education resources.

D. Parents will be encouraged to monitor and/or supervise homework and daily reading activities that reinforce or enrich their child's classroom learning and a list of selected books to read is provided.

**IV. Parents/Families and community organizations will be provided numerous opportunities to share in decision-making and to become leaders in the advisory and advocacy roles in the schools including school review and steps for school improvement.**

A. The district and schools will invite parents to participate as partners in decision-making activities.

1. All parents were invited to sign-up for the parent involvement committee
2. All parents were given the opportunity to provide feedback via a survey concerning parent involvement and the use of Title 1 funds.
3. BES encourages the organization and promotion of a PTO.
4. A Website is set up by the school to give parents/families an opportunity to find information related to BES school events and functions.

B. BES collaborates with business and community organizations.

1. The Family Resource Center will collaborate with the community and businesses to link parents/families to school and community resources.
2. Community and business partners will be recruited to provide incentives for good attendance, etc.

- Marco's
- TCBY
- Chick-fil-A

- Lenny's Subs
- Dominos

3. A handbook containing a list of community resources found in the school district is available online to give parents information regarding community resources.

<https://www.tn.gov/education/section/student-and-family-resources>

4. Other collaborations have been established to develop a mutual support and appreciation between business, community, and schools. Some of which include:

- Kiwanis Club
- Rotary
- The D.A.R.E. Program

Through ongoing collaboration, BES strives to bridge the gap between parent, school and community and improve relationships between home and school, which empowers families to become proactive partners in their children's education on a continuous basis. BES strives to do this by supplying information and resources, listening to feedback, and providing parents with multiple opportunities to become engaged in their child's education.









