

2017-2018

### School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Benbrook Elementary prepares leaders to aim high, hold the vision, and achieve greatness. At Benbrook we believe the parents and the community are an asset. Benbrook believes that parent involvement is important to help us achieve these goals. Benbrook hopes to achieve these goals through communication from the school and providing many opportunities for parental involvement.

Benbrook will hold an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents will be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of the school's participation, and to explain the requirements under this part, and the right of parents to be involved.

1. Benbrook will send parents notifications of Title 1 meetings in a reasonable time.
2. Benbrook will hold an annual meeting in September to provide parents with a Title 1 update.
3. Parents will have the opportunity to provide suggestions regarding decisions on education.

Benbrook will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning, afternoon, or evenings and on different days of the week. Benbrook will involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of programs in a language that parents understand, using interpreters as needed.

1. Parents will be invited to a variety of meetings and activities throughout the year. Open House will be held in September to provide parents an opportunity to visit the classroom and learn what is expected in the classroom.
2. Parent and Family Engagement meetings will be held once a month to discuss policy, compacts, learning opportunities, health news, technology, and any other content.
3. Parents/Families will have opportunities at monthly meetings to provide suggestions in decisions relating to the education of their children.
4. Parents are invited to school Improvement meetings to help develop the school's improvement plan.
5. Parents are invited to visit the classrooms to volunteer and observe.
6. Parents are invited to student performances throughout the year.
7. Use the marquee, flyers, call outs, and our website to announce upcoming events.

Benbrook will provide parental and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities and parent of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and include alternative formats upon request, in the language parents understand.

Benbrook will provide parents programs that include a description and explanation of the school's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure children's progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet by:

1. Send notification regarding academic assessments students will be receiving and notifications of results.
2. Send home, or on parent connect, progress reports
3. Send home, or on parent connect, report cards
4. Send home information of district and state required notification of assessments.
5. Parents will have the opportunity to schedule conferences with the teachers to discuss the education of the children.
6. Monthly meetings shall provide assistance to parents/families in understanding topics on State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
7. Monthly meetings can provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology.
  - a. Family Reading, Math, Science and Health nights.
  - b. Technology night to have parents sign up for Parent Connect so they can see the progress of their children.

Benbrook will take the following actions to provide each parent timely notice when their child has been assigned or has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified by sending a letter home and/or phone call.

### **Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic achievement**

Benbrook will jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and student will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

It takes a village to raise a child, someone once said. Here at Benbrook all teachers, parents, and students are part of the whole. This School -Parent – Child compact is a document that serves as an agreement between all parties at this school. Each section talks about how the Teacher, Parent, School and child will help with the education of the child. This compact should be used to motivate all involved to do their part in the success of the student's education at school. The compact can be revisited at any time to make changes or review what was put in place.

Benbrook will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics by undertaking the actions described in

1. The state's academic content standards
2. The state's student academic achievement standards
3. The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments.
4. The requirements for title 1-part A
5. How to monitor their child's progress
6. How to work with the teacher
  - a. Literacy workshops for K-5<sup>th</sup> grade for parents
  - b. Saturday tutoring for students that are struggling to meet standards for local and state assessments.
  - c. Provide after school tutorial for grades K-5<sup>th</sup>.
  - d. Provide materials and online programs for math and reading to improve student academic performance.
  - e. Hire academic tutors for struggling readers.

Benbrook will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.

1. Provide Istation and Renaissance 360, in math and reading.
2. Provide materials in reading and math to improve academic achievement.
3. Hire a Parent Representative to conduct monthly meetings on Instructional best practices.

Benbrook, with the parents, will educate the teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with the parents as equal partners in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and school by:

1. Providing parents an opportunity to communicate with teachers via email.
2. Provide a website that includes teacher email address information.
3. Telephone conferences during teacher planning times.
4. Written notifications in English and Spanish and others upon request.

Benbrook will to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Ready Rosie, Home Instruction programs for preschool youngsters (HIPPO) and other programs. The school will encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by providing opportunities for parents to visit the school during planned teacher parent meetings to encourage parents to participate in the education of the students.

## Adoption

This School Parental and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with and agreed on with the parents of children participating in Title 1 programs.

The policy was adopted by Benbrook Elementary and will be in effect for the 2017-2018 school year. The school will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title 1 children by October 20, 2017 in letters and it will be located on the Benbrook website.