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## **Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

**2020-2021**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The staff at Atkinson Elementary will work together to provide a safe, nurturing environment in which every child has the opportunity to successfully develop the academic, emotional, and social skills necessary to effectively contribute to an increasingly diverse society.

### **SCHOOL BELIEFS (CORE VALUES)**

- Student learning is the highest priority of the school.
- Each student is a valued individual with unique physical, social, emotional, and intellectual needs.
- Teachers, administrators, families, and the community share the responsibility for advancing the school's mission.
- Exceptional students are provided with appropriate special services and resources.
- A safe and nurturing environment promotes student learning.
- Students learn in different ways and will be provided with a variety of instructional approaches to support their learning.

### **SCHOOL VISION**

Children who attend Atkinson Elementary will succeed as lifelong learners.

### **Atkinson Elementary Parent and Family Involvement Policy**

#### **Convene an Annual Meeting**

Traditionally, Atkinson Elementary hosts an open house event in September. During open house, Atkinson presents information about Title I funding and programs. Due to health and safety, while following our governor's and NCDHS orders, we did not host this event. However, a video with Title I funding and programs will be sent out to parents and families this fall. On August 24, 2020, parents and families were sent a notification letter about Atkinson's Title I program which is also available on our school's website. During the first quarter PTO meeting, Atkinson Elementary will conduct a family input, question, and answer session about our Title I Program.

#### **Offer a Flexible Parent and Family Engagement Educational and Informational Activities**

While we will have to be creative during the pandemic, Atkinson Elementary will provide educational and informational activities and opportunities for families throughout the school year. These include, but are not limited to, academic engagement activities, information about student assessments, which will detail proficiency levels and expected student growth, and strategies families can use to help students succeed. Feedback from families will assist Atkinson in different engagement activities to offer. Virtual events and/or recordings will be held and available at varying times to accommodate the needs of working families.

## **Atkinson School Family Involvement Policy (cont.)**

### **Involve Parents and Families in an Organized, Ongoing, and Timely Way**

Atkinson Elementary will provide parent representation on the School Improvement Team, the PTO board, and Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council. Parents and families will be included in decisions involving The School Improvement Plan, this Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and will be asked to serve on various school committees.

### **Provide Timely Information**

Individual teacher conferences will be scheduled at times convenient for families, as well as MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) meetings, 504 meetings, and IEP (Individualized Education Program) placement meetings. Teacher newsletters, websites, social media, educational apps, report cards, progress reports, and standardized test results will all be used to keep families informed about school events and their child's educational needs and progress.

### **Provide for Family Comments**

Atkinson Elementary will provide opportunities for family comments on the schoolwide plan through conferences, committees, the School Improvement Team, and surveys.

Atkinson Elementary recognizes the importance of home and school communication, involvement, and collaboration for the success and well being of our students and encourages parents to communicate regularly with faculty and staff.

## **Parent and Family Engagement Activities 2020-2021**

Traditionally, Atkinson hosts a variety of parent and family engagement activities and events including Veterans Day Assembly and Breakfast for Atkinson Family Veterans, Literacy Lunch and Lead, Holiday Music Program (4-5), Music program (2-3 & K-1), Mathematics Donuts and Discussion, Variety Talent Show, PTO's Cougar Fun Run, PTO Spring Carnival, Rising Kindergarten Socials, and Honor Roll Assemblies. We will continue to look for creative ways to engage our parents and families during this pandemic.

**August 12 - 14**  
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**Meet-the-Teacher Appointments (K-1)**  
**Meet-the-Teacher Virtual Meetings (2-5)**

**August 17 - 19  
or Virtual Orientation**

**Google Classroom & Class Schedule In-Person**

**Fall  
October/November  
TBD  
TBD  
TBD**

**Sessions (K-1)  
Annual Title I Informational Video  
Individual Parent Conferencing (K-5)  
Literacy Engagement  
Math Engagement  
Honor Roll and/or Recognitions**

**Please complete:  
[Approval Form](#)**

Parents/Guardians: **[For Parent & Family Input and](#)**

Staff: **[For Staff Input and Approval Form](#)**