

# Atkinson Elementary School

2510 Old Kanuga Road Hendersonville, NC 28739 (828) 697-4755 Fax (828) 698-6120

# Parent and Family Engagement Policy

2025-26

#### **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 and social and emotional 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

#### Provide Annual Title I Program Information to Families

Atkinson Elementary School will provide families with clear and comprehensive information about Title I funding and related programs. At the beginning of the school year, all families will receive a notification letter and a video overview of Atkinson's Title I program, included in welcome packets, shared in our weekly newsletter, and posted on the school website for easy access.

Throughout the year, families will also have opportunities to ask questions and provide input about the Title I program during parent-teacher conferences, IEP meetings, PTO meetings, and other school events.

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

Atkinson Elementary will provide a variety of educational and informational opportunities for families throughout the school year. These will include academic engagement events, resources on student assessments (including proficiency levels and growth expectations), and strategies families can use to support their child's success at home.

Additional topics may be offered based on feedback from family surveys conducted during the year. To accommodate the diverse needs of our families, events will be scheduled at different times and may include virtual or at-home options. Childcare and transportation may be provided when needed to support participation.

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

Atkinson Elementary actively involves parents and families in school decision-making through representation on the School Improvement Team, PTO, and the Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council. Families are invited to provide input on the School Improvement Plan and the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, as well as to participate on various school committees throughout the year.

We welcome your involvement! If you have questions or are interested in serving in any capacity, please contact the school office.

#### **Provide Timely Information**

Atkinson Elementary is committed to keeping families informed in a timely and accessible manner. Parent-teacher conferences, as well as MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports), 504, and IEP (Individualized Education Program) meetings, will be scheduled at times that are convenient for families.

Ongoing communication will be maintained through school and classroom newsletters, school website, social media, educational apps, report cards, progress reports, and standardized test results. These tools ensure families stay up to date on school events and their child's academic progress and support needs.

## **Provide for Family Comments**

Atkinson Elementary welcomes and values family input on the schoolwide plan. Opportunities for feedback will be available through parent-teacher conferences, school committees, the School Improvement Team, and periodic surveys.

We recognize that strong communication, collaboration, and involvement between home and school are essential to student success. Families are encouraged to maintain regular communication with faculty and staff to support their child's academic and social development.

# Parent and Family Engagement Activities 2025-2026

Atkinson hosts a variety of parent and family engagement activities and events, including Veterans Day Assembly and Breakfast for Atkinson Family Veterans, Lunch & Lead, Music Programs, PTO Events, Rising Kindergarten Readiness, and individual celebration events.

August 8 Welcome Home Event

End of 1st Qtr Individual Parent Conferencing (K-5)

September 12 & 19 Lunch and Lead/Learn

November 8 Veteran Day Assembly (For Veteran Families)

November 21 Lunch and Lead/Learn (Grades 1, 3, 5)

December 11 Holiday Music Program 6:00 (Grades 4 & 5)

December 12 Lunch and Lead (Grades K, 2, 4)

March 5 Music Program 6:00 (Grades 2 & 3)

April 30 Music Program 6:00 (Grades K & 1)

May 18 Field Day

\*Dates are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances and schedules.



Please take a moment to review our Parent and Family Engagement Policy and share your approval or suggestions by completing the <u>linked form</u>.