

# BENTONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



## *PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN 2019-2020*

### **Parental Involvement Committee:**

Mitun Balasekaran– PTO President, Alex Gardner– BHS Student, Jack Loyd – BHS Principal, Shelly Harris– Parental Involvement Facilitator, Maolina Yang – Counselor, BHS Administration (Ben Lewis, Greg Puckett, Rose Spaulding, Tanya Vaughn, Julia Woods), BHS Department Chairs (Stuart Brune, Misty Dail, Cindy Eaton, Holly Howard, Ray Mayer, Chris Wray, Terry Hicks, Aaron Williams)

### **STANDARD I: Parenting**

Parenting skills are promoted and supported.

To promote student learning, the school will offer support to parents by providing resources to improve parenting techniques and skills:

1. Provide a *Parent Resource Center*
  - a. Purchase and organize parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials regarding responsible parenting.
  - b. Provide parents an opportunity to borrow the materials for review through the *Parent Resource Center*.
  - c. Advertise and promote on the school website the current resource selections available in the *Parent Resource Center*.
  - d. The *Parent Resource Center* is housed in the South Library. Additional resources are available in the north and south main offices and north and south counseling centers.
2. Promote parenting websites and contact information to parents in both parent information areas and via the school website.
3. Plan and engage in other activities determined by the school to be beneficial to promoting and supporting responsible parenting.
  - a. School employees will recognize that there are a variety of parenting traditions and practices within the community's cultural and religious diversity.
  - b. Staff members will be encouraged to demonstrate respect for families and the family's primary role in the rearing of children to become responsible adults.
  - c. Inform parents of free parenting classes and workshops offered within the community and school system.

### **STANDARD II: Communication**

Communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and meaningful.

To encourage communication with parents, the school will:

1. Prepare family kits appropriate for students in grades 9-12 that include the following:

- a. The school’s parental involvement program.
- b. The recommended role of the parent, student, teacher, in school.
- c. Ways for parents to become involved in the school and their child’s education.
- d. A system to allow parents and teachers to communicate in a regular, two-way, meaningful manner with the child’s teachers and the school’s administrative staff.
- e. Information on how to electronically access the student handbook which includes the recommended role of the parents, teachers, student, and school.
- f. Volunteer opportunities for parents. PTO coordinates many activities for volunteers.
- g. Information regarding PTO that includes events, volunteer opportunities and an application for membership.

<i>September 16 , 2019</i>	<i>Monthly PTO Meeting</i>	<i>11:30 am – 1:00 pm</i>
<i>October 21, 2019</i>	<i>Monthly PTO Meeting</i>	<i>11:30 am – 1:00 pm</i>
<i>November 18, 2019</i>	<i>Monthly PTO Meeting</i>	<i>11:30 am – 1:00 pm</i>
<i>December 16, 2019</i>	<i>Monthly PTO Meeting</i>	<i>11:30 am – 1:00 pm</i>
<i>January 20, 2020</i>	<i>Monthly PTO Meeting</i>	<i>11:30 am – 1:00 pm</i>
<i>February 17 , 2020</i>	<i>Monthly PTO Meeting</i>	<i>11:30 am – 1:00 pm</i>
<i>March 16, 2020</i>	<i>Monthly PTO Meeting</i>	<i>11:30 am – 1:00 pm</i>
<i>April 20, 2020</i>	<i>Monthly PTO Meeting</i>	<i>11:30 am – 1:00 pm</i>
<i>May 18, 2020</i>	<i>Monthly PTO Meeting</i>	<i>11:30 am – 1:00 pm</i>

- h. School website address & who to contact information
- i. Anti-bullying policy – (page 84 of the Bentonville Schools High School Student Handbook for detailed information)
- j. Student Check-Out/Emergency Contact cards - Information is updated in Home Access Center and eSchool

- 2. To encourage communication with the parents, the school shall schedule no less than two (2) parent/teacher conferences per school year. Conferences will be held in both the fall and spring along with Student Success Planning (SSP – course selection/registration) in the spring.

<i>October 8</i>	<i>Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences</i>	<i>4:00 – 7:30 pm</i>
<i>February 11 &amp; 13</i>	<i>Student Success Planning</i>	<i>4:00 – 7:30 pm</i>
<i>March 17</i>	<i>Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences</i>	<i>4:00 – 7:30 pm</i>

- 3. Establish opportunities for parents and educators to share information such as student strengths and learning preferences.

- a. Bentonville High School will host a Parent University event to review academic pathways for students. Topics will include: Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Online Learning, Early College Experiences (NWACC), Career Studies, and Ignite Pathways.

<i>January 16</i>	<i>Parent University</i>	<i>5:00 – 8:00 pm</i>
-------------------	--------------------------	-----------------------

- 4. Use a variety of communication tools seeking to facilitate two-way interaction between parents and teachers that include but are not limited to conferences, phone calls, emails, and letters.

- 5. Provide clear information regarding course expectations and offerings, student placement, school activities, student services, and optional programs.

- a. All families will be given or provided access to a Bentonville High School course description guide that will list courses offered, graduation requirements, and other important information.
- b. Course syllabi will be provided to students.
- c. *Student Announcements* are communicated daily via email.

- d. *Google Classroom* is used by many teachers to communicate content specific information.
6. Send report cards and make available regular academic update reports available to parents on the *Home Access Center*. Provide support services and follow-up conferences as needed.
  - a. Semester report cards will be sent to parents.
  - b. Emails or phone calls from teachers to parents as concerns arise.
  - c. Advisory teacher and school counselors will contact parents as needed.
  - d. Parents are encouraged to use *Home Access Center* to regularly monitor grades and their child's attendance.
7. Disseminate information on school policies, discipline procedures, assessment tools and school goals. Include parents in any related decision making process.
  - a. School goals will be reported by principal to parents during *Open House, Parent Teacher Conferences, and Parent University*.
  - b. The Bentonville Schools High School Student Handbook are available to all students & parents via the district and high school websites. Hard copies are also available in both north and south counseling offices.
8. Encourage immediate contact between parents and teachers when concerns arise.
  - a. *Who Do I Contact* information is provided on the Bentonville High School website that outlines who to contact for various concerns.
9. Translate communications to assist non-English speaking parents when requested. The district and Bentonville High School will provide translators to assist non-English speaking parents at Parent/Teacher conferences, Student Success Planning conferences, registration meetings, and all other meetings to enable parents to help their children improve their academic achievement and become active participants in the education of their children.
10. Communicate with parents regarding positive student behavior and achievement, not just regarding misbehavior or failure. Teachers will communicate via email, phone calls, postcards, notes, letters and conferences.
11. All teachers will use a website to allow parents access to their child's classroom instruction and assignments to facilitate parents taking an active role in their child's education via Google Classroom, Google Sites, and Bentonville High School homepage.
12. Provide opportunities for parents to communicate with principals and other administrative staff.
  - a. *Student Success Plans* (SSP) will be developed for students by the end of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. BHS counselors and administrative staff will sit down with each 8<sup>th</sup> grade family to develop a personalized education plan intended to assist students with achieving readiness for college and career prior to entering their first year of high school. (January – March 2020)
13. Promote informal activities at which parents, staff, and community members can interact.
14. Provide staff development regarding effective communication techniques and the importance of regular two-way communication between the school and the family.
15. To encourage communication with parents, BHS will host an informational parent meeting during the spring semester to explain the various advanced placement programs offered to students.

16. The school may plan and engage in other activities determined by the school to be beneficial to encourage communication with parents.
- a. Host orientation sessions for new students.
 

<i>August 6, 2019</i>	<i>New to District Parent Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 – 7:30 pm</i>
<i>April 7, 2020</i>	<i>New to District Pre-Enrollment</i>	<i>1:00 – 3:30 pm</i>
  - b. Host “Meet the Teacher Night” or “Open House” so that parents can meet their child’s teachers.
 

<i>August 27, 2019</i>	<i>Open House</i>	<i>4:30 – 7:00 pm</i>
------------------------	-------------------	-----------------------
  - c. Sponsor parent nights and meetings that address different components of high school and post-secondary or career education.
 

<i>September 24, 2019</i>	<i>Senior Parent Meeting: College Admissions</i>	<i>6:30 - 8:00 pm</i>
<i>October 8, 2019</i>	<i>FAFSA Financial Aid Workshop</i>	<i>5:00 - 7:00 pm</i>

### **STANDARD III: Volunteering**

**Parents are welcome in the school. Their support and assistance are valuable to the success of the school.**

To welcome parents in the school, the school shall:

1. Not have any school policies or procedures that would discourage a parent from visiting the school, specifically including:
  - a. Policies requiring parents to pick-up his or her child outside the school building each day.
  - b. Policies prohibiting parents from visiting a child’s classroom during school events.
  - c. Ensuring that office staff greetings, signage near the entrances, and any other interaction with the parents create a climate in which parents feel valued and welcomed.
  - d. Educating and assisting staff members in creating an inviting climate and effectively utilizing volunteer resources.
2. Establish volunteer policies and training for all volunteers.
3. Engage in other activities determined by the school to welcome parents into the school.
  - a. Volunteer and visitor name tags are available in the main office. They are easily accessible to parents entering the building.
  - b. Parents are invited to join PTO and attend monthly meetings.

### **STANDARD IV: Learning at Home**

**Parents play an integral role in assisting and promoting student learning.**

To help parents in assisting students, the school shall:

1. During Parent/Teacher conferences, and Open House or separate meeting, parents are given a report on the state of the school as well as an overview of:
  - a. What students will be learning
  - b. How students will be assessed
  - c. What parents should expect for their child’s education
  - d. How parents can assist with and make a difference in his or her child’s education

- e. Special efforts will be made to notify parents of this presentation date
- 2. Provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment and engage in other activities determined to help a parent assist in the student's learning.
- 3. Encourage active participation in physical activities, workforce education, community activities, and volunteerism.
- 4. Ensure that parents are informed and involved in the district wellness practices including BMI protocol, foods allowed in the school setting, opportunities for physical activity, and suggested resources that are available which encourage healthy, active living.

**STANDARD V: Decision Making**

**Recognize that parents are full partners in the decision making process that affects their child and family.**

To encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect his or her child and family, the school shall:

- 1. Publish the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define the problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions.
- 2. Sponsor seminars to inform parents how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selections, career planning, and preparation for post-secondary opportunities.
  - a. Parents are active partners in the annual SSP (Student Success Planning) Conferences. This plan is a personalized education plan intended to assist students with achieving readiness for college, career and community engagement. The student success plan shall guide the student along the pathway to graduation, address accelerated learning opportunities, address academic deficits and interventions, and include college and career planning components.
 

*February 11 & 13, 2020                      Student Success Planning                      4:00 – 7:30 pm*
- 3. Form a parental involvement advisory committee to share ideas, needs and desires for the school. Suggestions will be presented to the administrative team.
- 4. Treat parent concerns with respect and demonstrate a genuine interest in developing solutions.
- 5. Engage in other activities that the school determines will encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect his or her child and family.
  - a. Parents serve on the school improvement committee.

**STANDARD VI: Collaborating with the Community**

**Recognize that community resources strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.**

To take advantage of community resources, the school shall:

1. Engage in other activities that the school determines will use community resources to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.
  - a. The school will seek support for students and parents by contacting local businesses for coupons and prizes for activities and events.
  - b. Student organizations, with the assistance of parents and teachers, will provide service to non-profit agencies in the community.
  - c. Develop partnerships with local businesses and service groups.

**Parental Involvement Facilitator – Shelly Harris – [sharris@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:sharris@bentonvillek12.org) 479-254-5241**