



# KIPP DELTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## KIPP Delta Public Schools Family Engagement Plan School Year 2020-2021

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### Committee:

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### KIPP Delta's Family Engagement Plan has three objectives:

1. To support schools in increasing the engagement of families in order to improve students' academic and post-secondary outcomes;
2. To support schools in ensuring that families feel supported and a sense of belonging at KIPP Delta in order to increase the likelihood that they will engage in meaningful and productive ways on behalf of their students; and,
3. To support schools in improving outcomes for students by building school communities that are reflective of our students and their needs, including, but not limited to, partnerships with community service agencies, medical professionals, supplementary educational organizations, etc.

We will do this by supporting high quality communication; increasing staff and leaders' capacity to engage parents; and increasing parent knowledge and comfort with challenging academic standards.

### **I. Communication**

KIPP Delta provides our teachers, student-facing staff, and leaders with school-issued technology, including phones and laptop computers. We ask them to be available from 7:30 am to 7:00pm to answer questions and respond to student and family needs.

Teachers are expected to use their phones to communicate regularly about student academic performance or behavior that positively or negatively impacts their performance or a classmate's performance.

### **KIPP DELTA COMMUNITIES**

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**Each week:**

KIPP Delta requires schools to send the home a report of a student's current grade in each of their classes and a report of student behavior that positively or negatively impacts academic performance. During periods of blended or virtual learning, this report will be replaced by weekly telephone check-ins from the student's advisor/home room teacher.

**Quarterly:**

KIPP Delta requires schools to provide information regarding academic progress, including a student's current reading level, to families through in-person or virtual parent-teacher conferences and report card nights. In addition to receiving the student's grades for that quarter, parents are given a measurement of how a student is reading compared to current grade level and on interim tests given at the school. This is designed to facilitate conversations between families and the school about how a student is performing compared to grade-level expectations and strengthen the partnership between teacher and parent to ensure the student is progressing appropriately. This information will be mailed home in addition to being shared at report card nights.

**Ongoing:**

KIPP Delta will work to ensure that all families have the opportunity to receive timely communication that matches their work availability. We will work with schools to ensure that our parents who work swing shifts, second shifts, and third shifts have access to participate in activities that meet the goals of our school family engagement plans.

We will work to build trust through consistent, honest, reliable, timely communication to our families. We will support schools in ensuring that their communication is also consistent, honest, reliable, and timely.

**On an as-needed basis:**

KIPP Delta will use SchoolMessenger to communicate important messages to our families.

**II. Increase teacher, staff, and leader capacity to engage families****At the start of the year:**

At the start of the school year, KIPP Delta provides training and support to student-facing staff on phoning families via professional reading and professional development used to practice learning using *Phoning Parents: High-leverage moves to transform your classroom* (Goldstein, 2013).

KIPP Delta will Identify a committee of parents -- from each community and at each grade band -- who can provide ongoing feedback on KIPP Delta's ability to support parents in reaching the three goals. We will use their feedback to assess and update our family engagement plans at our scheduled progress monitoring meetings.

KIPP Delta will create a parental involvement survey to gauge the type and quantity of involvement parents desire. KIPP Delta will provide a survey for each school and support schools in deciphering and disseminating results.

Quarterly:

KIPP Delta Central Office staff will meet with parents to discuss successes and areas for improvement in supporting parents to successfully navigate the state's challenging academic standards; state and local assessments; the requirements of Title I; and how to monitor their children's progress and improve their achievement. This feedback will be given to schools' parent involvement committees in order to facilitate improvement in our parent engagement.

Ongoing:

KIPP Delta will partner with experts in family counseling to help schools identify strategies to support parents, including to support students in hybrid or virtual learning environments.

KIPP Delta will use ongoing professional development to continue to develop teacher and leader skills in culturally competent communication with families and will provide resources to schools seeking to increase teacher efficacy in communication. Leaders

KIPP Delta will require its school leaders and assistant principals to complete professional learning about removing barriers to family participation in their children's learning, evaluate the current reality, and develop strategies to eliminate the barriers they identified.

**III. Provide greater access to families to support their students by funding parent learning that helps parents navigate the state's challenging academic standards; state and local academic assessments; the requirements of Title I; and how to monitor their children's progress and improve their achievement**

At the start of the year:

KIPP Delta will base funding priorities on the three criteria above and aligned to the learning outcomes named in increasing teacher and parent capacity. At least 1% of Title I funds will be set aside in the school's budget for parent and family engagement activities.

Each school in the district will select a parent and family engagement contact person as part of developing their school's plan.

Given the virtual and hybrid learning environments, KIPP Delta will also hold parent learning sessions to make families comfortable navigating our learning management systems and technology. These sessions will also cover how to coach children through challenging learning topics.

Quarter 1 and Quarter 2:

KIPP Delta will hold parent literacy training, in partnership for Springboard, for parents of lower elementary students that supports parents in building their capacity to support reading at home. This training will also focus on fostering healthy living habits (sleep, eating, family activities) that contribute to the likelihood of student academic success. For our middle school and high school families, KIPP Delta will hold college and career learning sessions, along with sessions on how to help teenagers communicate productively and support for sexual education and good decision-making.

Annually:

KIPP Delta will survey parents annually. This survey will include questions to identify barriers to parent and family engagement. KIPP Delta will invite parents to provide feedback on evaluation procedures and to review the data collected during evaluations.

Ongoing:

KIPP Delta will develop procedures for collecting parent participating documentation through sign-in lists for workshops, meetings, and conferences; agendas; and meeting notes.

The district will use findings from the evaluation process to recommend revisions to parent and family engagement policies to each school and provide suggestions for designing school improvement policies, as they relate to parent and family engagement. KIPP Delta will develop and disseminate an annual parent activity evaluation report to share with parents, staff and the community.

**Evaluation**

We will evaluate our success in engaging parents by using the TNP Family Insights survey. We aim to have an increase in our 2018-2019 Family Survey results. Our goal is to have an elementary satisfaction survey rating of 90% and a secondary satisfaction rating of 85%.