

**KIPP Delta Public Schools
KIPP Blytheville Collegiate High School
Family Engagement Plan
School Year 2020-2021**

Committee:

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The KIPP Blytheville Collegiate High School (KBC) Family Engagement Plan has three objectives:

1. To increase the engagement of families in order to improve students' academic and post-secondary outcomes;
2. To ensure that families feel supported and have a sense of belonging at KBC to increase the likelihood that they will engage in meaningful and productive ways on behalf of their students;
3. To improve outcomes for students by building a school community that is 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 members' capacity to engage parents, and increasing parent knowledge and comfort with challenging academic standards.

I. Communication

KBC 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 a.m. to 8 p.m. 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.

Each week:

KBC will send home a report of each 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 may be replaced by a telephone check-in or a zoom meeting with the parent, student, and any other stakeholder who can provide support for the KBC KIPPster.

Each month:

KBC will have PTO meetings or events. At this time, we will leverage parent relationships to discuss concerns and celebrations around virtual/hybrid learning, school culture, and student achievement. We will also discuss ways to actively celebrate students. When we provide dinner for our families, attendance and active participation are higher. Therefore, occasionally monies from the family engagement budget will be used to cover the cost of providing meals for our families.

Quarterly:

KBC will provide information regarding academic progress, including each 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 will be given a measurement of how their student is reading compared to current grade level and how they are performing 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. This will also 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 during report card nights. When we meet in the evenings after school, we will occasionally use our family engagement money to help cover the cost of food. We know that when we have an event where we serve dinner, we are likely to have a larger parent attendance rate from our parents.

Ongoing:

KBC will work to ensure that all families have the opportunity to receive timely communication that matches their work availability. We will work with families to ensure they can participate in their student's education and family activities regardless of their work shifts.

KBC will work to build trust through consistent, honest, reliable, timely communication with our families.

On an as-needed basis:

KBC will use SchoolMessenger to communicate important messages to our families.

II. Increase teacher and staff capacity to engage families

At the start of the year:

At the start of the school year, KBC provides training and support to student-facing staff regarding effective and professional ways to communicate with families via telephone. We use the resource, *Phoning Parents: High-Leverage Moves to Transform Your Classroom* (Goldstein, 2013).

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

KBC will administer a district-created parental involvement survey to gauge the type and quantity of involvement parents desire. KBC will disseminate results to teachers during an afternoon professional development time in order to plan additional ways to involve parents in their students' learning.

Quarterly:

KBC will provide training and support to our student-facing staff on equitable practices via professional development from Karima Wilson at ForgedED. We will use a fraction of our dollars to help support the cost of this training.

KBC will actively recruit more families to our campus. We will use parent involvement funds to help cover the cost of school supplies, supplemental materials, and refreshments.

Ongoing:

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

KBC 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. We will use parent involvement funds to help cover the cost of professional development training and supplemental materials.

KBC will actively recruit more families to our campus so families understand the expectation for college-readiness, academic expectations, and behavioral expectations. We will use parent involvement funds to help cover the cost of school supplies, supplemental materials, and refreshments.

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:

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

Given the virtual and hybrid learning environments, KBC 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.

Quarterly

For our middle school and high school families, KBC 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:

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

Evaluation

We will evaluate our success in engaging parents by using the TNTP Family Insights survey. We aim to have an increase in our 2020-21 Family Survey results. Our goal is to have a secondary school satisfaction rating of 70 percent.