



# Bethesda Elementary School

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### PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Bethesda Elementary School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Consistent with section 1116, Bethesda will ensure that the required school level parent/family engagement policy meets the requirements of section 1116 of ESSA, and includes, as a component, a school-parent/family compact consistent with section 1116 of ESSA.
- Schools will notify parents/families of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. The policy will be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and Bethesda.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A, parent/family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, Bethesda will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents/families with limited English proficiency, parents/families with disabilities, and parents/families of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If Bethesda school-wide program plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1114 (b) of the ESSA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, Bethesda will submit any parent comments with the plan when Bethesda submits the plan to the local educational agency (Durham Public Schools).
- Bethesda will involve the parents/families of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how funds reserved under this part are spent for parent/family engagement activities. Bethesda will build the capacity of the school and parents/families for strong parent/family engagement in order to ensure effective engagement of parents and to support a partnership among Bethesda, parents/families, and the community, to improve student academic achievement.
- Bethesda will provide parent/family engagement activities under section 1116 of the ESSA in the areas of improving student achievement, child development, child-rearing, and additional topics parents may request.
- Bethesda will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent/family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
  - Parent/Family Engagement means the participation of parents/families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—
    - that parents/families play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
    - that parents/families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;



# Bethesda Elementary School

## Ready! Set! GROW!

- that parents/families are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;
- the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESSA.

### **PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW SCHOOLS WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

1. Bethesda Elementary School shall take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development and review of its school parent/family engagement policy under section 1116 of the ESSA:

- PTA
- School Improvement Team

2. Bethesda Elementary School shall take the following actions to involve parents in the process of planning, joint development of the program, review and improvement of programs under Title I Part A of the ESSA:

- School Improvement Team
- PTA
- Parent Advisory Council

3. Bethesda Elementary School shall hold an annual open meeting to inform parents/families of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the right of parents/families to be involved in Title I, Part A programs. The school will invite all parents/families of children participating in Title I, Part A programs to this meeting.

- Conference Nights
- Title I Annual Open Meeting
- Title I Annual Review Meeting
- Parents are notified with flyers, invitations, Connect-Ed messages, and newsletters

4. Bethesda shall provide parents/families of participating children information in a timely manner about Title I, Part A programs that includes a description and explanation of Bethesda's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure children's progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.

- Quarterly Conference Nights (on progress report distribution days)
- EOG Testing Data
- Regular distribution of Progress Reports and Report Cards
- PTA Meetings



# Bethesda Elementary School

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- NC Report Card Mailing
- School Report Card

5. Bethesda Elementary School shall, at the request of parents/families, provide opportunities for regular meetings, held at flexible times, for parents/families to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. Bethesda will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible by:

- School Improvement Team
- PTA
- Quarterly Parent Conferences
- Communicating with families regarding suggestions about location/time of parent meetings and involvement activities

6. Bethesda Elementary School shall provide each parent/family an individual student report about the performance of their child on the State assessment in at least math, language arts and reading by:

- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Individual Student Reports
- Progress Monitoring Reports
- Phone Conferences and Student Data Chats

7. Bethesda Elementary School shall take the following actions to provide each parent/family timely notice when their child has been assigned or has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified:

- Parents' Right to Know Notifications

8. Bethesda Elementary School shall provide assistance to parents/families of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics by undertaking the actions described below --

- the state's academic content standards,
- the state's student academic achievement standards,
- the state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- the requirements of Title I Part A,
- how to monitor their child's progress, and
- how to work with educators
- Conference Nights

9. Bethesda Elementary School shall provide materials and training to help parents/families work with their children in the areas of improving student achievement (including literacy training and using technology), child development, child rearing, and additional topics parents may request.

- Quarterly Parent Nights



# Bethesda Elementary School

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- Newsletters with strategies to assist students
- Creating and sending resources to families

10. Bethesda Elementary School shall, with the assistance of its parents/families, educate its teachers, student services personnel, principals and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents/families as equal partners in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

- PTA
- Parent volunteers in classroom
- Parent participation on School Improvement Team
- Parent/Family Engagement Surveys
- Annual Review Meeting

11. Bethesda Elementary School shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent/family engagement programs and activities, external organizations and other programs. The school will also conduct other activities, such as parent/family resource centers, to encourage and support parents/families in fully participating in the education of their children, by:

- Quarterly Parent Nights
- Reading/Literacy Emphasis and Community Days

12. Bethesda Elementary School shall take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent/family-programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/families can understand:

- Connect-Ed
- Flyers
- Banners
- Parent Board
- Newsletters
- Website
- Providing materials and information in multiple languages



# Bethesda Elementary School

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### **PART III. DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

NOTE: The School Parent/Family Engagement Policy may include additional information and describe other discretionary activities that the school, in consultation with its parents/families chooses to undertake to build parents' and families' capacity for involvement in the school to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1116 of the ESSA:

- involving parents/families in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- providing necessary literacy training for parents/families from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent/family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents/families to participate in school related meetings and training sessions;
- training parents/families to enhance the involvement of other parents/families;
- arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children, arrange meetings with parents/families who are unable to attend conferences at school in order to maximize parent/family engagement and participation in their children's education;
- adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parent/family engagement;
- establishing a school parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent/family engagement in Title I, Part A programs;
- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith based organizations, in parent/family engagement activities.

Bethesda Elementary School agrees to employ these strategies as needed, and to troubleshoot additional strategies with parent input for the 2020-2021 academic school year.



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## PART IV. ADOPTION

This School Parent/Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents/families of children participating in Title I, PTA programming, and PTA board, and Bethesda School Officials.

This policy was adopted by Bethesda Elementary School on 9/9/20 and will be in effect for the period of one academic school year. Bethesda will distribute this policy to all parents/families of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 30, 2023.

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Emory Wyckoff

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9/8/23