

Benjamin E. Mays IB World School – Family Engagement

Our school communicates with families in many ways.

- *Benjamin E. Mays IB World School Weekly Highlights* e-mail is sent weekly.
- Watch our school website for information and upcoming events, www.spps.org/mays.
- Each teacher has a bi-monthly or weekly classroom newsletter.

Additionally, when families call, email, text, or send a note, we do our best to respond within 24 hours during the workweek.

Our Parent-School Compacts establish the shared responsibility for student success between school, families, and students. Families and teachers work together to develop the Compacts.

- Benjamin E. Mays IB World School is pleased with the partnership between families and the school in the development of Grade-Level Compacts around academic goals. Compacts are available during our Meet & Greet in August, during Parent/Teacher Conferences in fall, and during Title 1 Night/Mays Café in fall. They are also posted on our website and available in our main office.
- Compacts are reviewed and revised, with parent input, every spring.

Our school shares information about student achievement with families in multiple ways.

- Report cards are distributed three times a year. Report cards are distributed in person during Parent/Teacher Conferences. If a family is unable to attend conferences, the report card is sent home.
- The classroom teacher will send progress reports home bi-weekly.
- Parent-Teacher conferences are held twice a year in fall and spring.

Our school supports families as advocates and provides opportunities for parent leadership.

- Mays CAFÉ, in fall, offers opportunities for parents and community members to share their views and vision for Mays. A team of parents and school staff meet regularly to plan the CAFÉ events.
- Parent Teacher Association (PTA) meets regularly throughout the school year at Mays.
- Parents have been instrumental in bringing the Parent Teacher Plan to Mays. The Parent Teacher Plan is used during our fall and spring conferences to set academic goals together.
- If parents have concerns about their child's learning, the process at Benjamin E. Mays IB World School is to start discussion with classroom teacher (involving MLL staff or Special Education staff as needed); then to approach the administrator assigned to that grade; after this, refer the concern to the Principal; if resolution has not been gained, next involve Assistant Superintendent (Lisa Sayles-Adams).
- The district has an Ombudsperson available to help resolve conflict between families and schools. The Ombudsperson is a person who listens to and investigates complaints against Saint Paul Public Schools, its programs, offices and staff. The Ombudsperson does not take sides. She works with parents, community members and the school district to clarify and resolve questions, concerns and complaints in a fair and timely manner. The services of the Ombudsperson are free. Our Ombudsperson is Dana Abrams, at (651) 767-8394 or dana.abrams@spps.org.

Our school supports family engagement.

So all families are able to participate in events and opportunities at school, Benjamin E. Mays IB World School provides translation, interpretation and transportation services as requested. Childcare services are provided at in-person PTA meetings and Mays CAFÉ gatherings.