

Capitol Hill Gifted and Talented Magnet

2017-2018 Family Engagement Plan

Capitol Hill Magnet School is a full-time academically gifted and talented program for students in grades 1-8. Learners experience a challenging academic program designed to develop skills in critical and creative thinking. Acceleration (fast-paced learning) combined with complex content allow for in-depth study through the joy of learning, kindness, wellness and student voice.

The mission of Capitol Hill Magnet School is “challenging academically gifted and talented students in a diverse school community.”

The Family Engagement Plan (FEP) is organized into four impact areas. We will be working together this year to build positive and goal-oriented relationships in each area. Families and staff at school developed this plan together.

Welcoming Environment	
Our school has staff member(s) available for families to discuss this plan and ask questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Liaison: Mai Kia Lee •
Our school communicates with families in many ways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each week, important information is sent home via the School Headliner and Blackboard Connect. Information is also posted on the school web site, and teachers update classroom information on the site monthly. • Teachers and staff are expected to return any correspondence, voice message or e-mail within 24 hours of the message.
The achievement gap, or rather the “opportunity gap,” between students of color and white students in Saint Paul Public Schools is unacceptable. Our school is working to change practices and systems by identifying the barriers that make it harder for students of color to succeed and for their families to support their learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For more about our work on racial equity, contact: Lisa Larson
Transitions between schools can be challenging, and we work to help families as their children start and leave our school.	<p>For new students and families, we support the transition by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition to Middle School for all incoming 6th graders with team building and transition activities the first two days of school. • Welcome Open House September 2017 • Naviance Program

	<p>For students and families moving to the next school in their pathway, we support the transition by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have an articulation coordinator that holds activities and nights for families articulating to Highland Sr. High.
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Family Partnerships	
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<p>Our school-parent compact establishes the shared responsibility for student success between the school, families, and students. Families and teachers work together to develop the compact.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copies of the compact are available: in the main office through Der Thao • The compact will be updated: 9/30/17
<p>There are many opportunities for families to build connections to the school and to each other.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title I Annual Meeting where we will share information about school programs • Monthly PTO meetings • National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) will be on February 12, 2018
<p>We work to make these meetings and events available for every family in the school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will have Somali, Hmong, Karen and Hispanic interpreters at monthly PTO events, parent information night and conferences as well as on an “as needed basis”. • Dinner and childcare will be provided at the monthly PTO events.
<p>Our school supports families as advocates and provides opportunities for parent leadership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They will be provided with contact information for all of our staff the very first welcome open house. All needed contact information will also be available on our web site, as well as the weekly headliner and classroom newsletter. • PTO nights will include various guest speakers that will help to educate/support our parent/staff communities with topics and needs of our student population. • Monthly PTO meetings will be provided for families to voice their ideas, concerns and suggestions.
<p>Parent Academy provides the foundation of parents’ information and skills for becoming more involved in our school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Academy will be held in: February

Teaching and Learning	
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<p>Our school shares information about</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elementary Report cards will be distributed
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<p>student achievement with families in multiple ways</p>	<p>at the fall and spring conferences and they will be mailed home at the end of the school year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle School progress reports will distributed during fall and spring conferences and be mailed home once every quarter • Parent-Teacher conferences are held 11/9, 11/16, 11/17, 3/15/18, 3/22/18, 3/23/18 • Our elementary classrooms have an extensive “at your level books” of various genres and interests for students to check out on a daily basis to reinforce reading at home. • Parent information/curriculum night will be held on 9/19/17. • Our PTO nights will also feature speakers that will help with providing families with strategies to foster student learning. •
<p>Our school will engage families in Personalized Learning as a key strategy to accelerate student achievement, as these changes come to our school</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OneStop is available by contacting: Main Office • iPads - provide any information that parents need to know about iPads at your school. Contact the main office
<p>Many before- and after-school enrichment and support opportunities are available for students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDL, Community Education, Freedom School Express

<p style="text-align: center;">Community Partnerships</p>	
<p>Our school develops community partnerships to provide additional support for students and their families</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom School Express • MLK Center • Project KOFI • St. Paul Park and Rec • Wilder • Community Education • Gifted Alliance

This plan is available as part of our school’s SCIP, or School Comprehensive Improvement Plan at scip.spps.org, is on our school website at capitolhill.spps.org, and printed copies are available in the office.