



2018-19 Family Engagement Plan

Mission: To educate for a better tomorrow

Vision: • To educate all children in a respectful environment

- To encourage children to be lifelong learners, and caring and productive citizens
- To empower all children to succeed

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"> ● Principal: Dr. Howard Wilson ● Family Liaison: Carmen DiPrima ● Classroom and Specialist Teachers
Our school communicates with families in many ways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student work and important information for families goes home in the Wednesday folder. ● Quarterly family newsletters ● Regular updates to the school website ● Parent/Teacher conferences ● Weekly classroom newsletters ● Phone calls, emails, written letters, notes and flyers ● Goal of a 24-hour response time to phone calls and voicemail messages
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 Dr. Howard Wilson, Principal ● Leadership and Equity teams have been combined to ensure equity is part of all leadership team discussions and decision-making ● All licensed staff members have received Beyond Diversity training ● All staff members will continue to participate in training in the Restorative Practices model and NO BULLY system
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"> ● We conduct an Open House in the fall for our new families (including Pre-K and K students) as an opportunity for students to meet their teachers and become more familiar with the school ● We invite students, families and staff from local feeder pre-school programs such as Open Arms Pre-School to visit Kindergarten classrooms in spring

	<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 collaborate with local middle schools to schedule visits and information sessions to assist our graduating students with transition to middle school. <p>Students and staff from the local middle school visit Eastern Heights for a Q & A session with our current fifth graders</p>
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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 to our families at our Open House and on our school website at eastern.spps.org ● The compact is updated annually before the end of the previous school year
<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 – Thursday, August 30, 2018, 4:00-6:00PM ● Open House – Thursday, August 30, 2018, 4:00-6:00PM ● Carnival – Friday, October 12, 2018, 5:30-7:30PM ● Family Literacy/Multi-Cultural Night – January 24, 2019, 5:30-7:30PM ● National African-American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) – Monday, February 11, 2019 ● Family STEM Night in April 18, 2019, 5:30-7:30PM ● Monthly PTO and family engagement evening events ● Monthly Eagle Pride assemblies ● Weekly all-school “Gatherings” to celebrate student work ● Other annual cultural celebrations and Showcase events ● Licensed and non-licensed staff will conduct Home Visits during the Summer and throughout the school year
<p>We work to make these meetings and events available for every family in the school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Eastern Heights is a diverse school with many languages and cultures. All written materials sent to the home will be sent in English, Hmong, Spanish, Somali, and Karen. During meetings, we will provide translators ● During monthly parent meetings, we provide childcare services and transportation to families that need to get to and from school after hours. <u>Families needing transportation to conferences and other meetings should contact the School Office.</u> ● We conduct personal phone calls to families of English learners. Bilingual staff provides interpreter services during meetings and via phone calls ● When sending out information, we create flyers in various home languages. We also use automatic phone calls to disseminate information ● Hmong and Spanish Speaking Home/School Liaisons ● During conferences, we offer families transportation. ● During family events, we offer childcare, food and transportation as appropriate

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● During large family events our family liaison is available to provide information about school activities ● Family Liaison staff invite parents to different family events
<p>Our school supports families as advocates and provides opportunities for parent leadership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There are various ways for parents to voice their concerns regarding their child’s social and academic progress. Typically, parents will first contact with their child’s classroom teacher. If there are further concerns, the parents contact the administration. A joint meeting may be held with various staff members, administration and parents to work towards common goals ● Staff will receive professional development around the interpretation of ACCESS scores for ELL students, and use this information to best meet the needs of individual students. This information will be shared with parents at conferences as teachers lay out specific strategies that will help each ELL child to develop their English Language acquisition ● Families can get involved in planning for school improvement and family engagement by PTO meetings (monthly), Parent Group ad hoc meetings and Open House/Annual Title I meeting

Teaching and Learning

<p>Our school shares information about student achievement with families in multiple ways</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Our school shares information about student achievement with families in multiple ways ● Report cards and progress reports will be distributed at Conference time ● Parents will receive progress reports during conferences. Parent/Teacher conferences are held: November 2018 and March 2019 ● Parents will receive individualized progress reports upon request ● ACCESS scores for ELL students ● MCA Math/Reading scores for grades 3-5 ● MCA Science scores grade 5 ● W-APT language placement test ● Minnesota Reading Corps - Students are selected based on their assessment testing. Students work one on one with MRC tutors to help improve and build their literacy skills. MRC use specific research based scripted interventions that help students work towards reading proficiency ● During conferences, student results and data will be shared with families. Teachers will be able to share with families some strategies they can use at home to support student learning ● Our school will engage families in Personalized Learning as a key strategy to accelerate student achievement, as these changes come to our school
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	Families will be provided with other website links and applications for use at home to reinforce concepts being taught at school.
Our school will engage in personalized learning as a key strategy to accelerate student achievement. Parents can get more information using many tools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent log-in information can be accessed at spps.org/onestop or by asking the school clerk, LeeAnn Price or Technology Coordinator, Kent Sall ● Our school promotes <u>Seesaw</u> and <u>Schoolology</u> as a way to upload and share student work with families and promote parent involvement in their child’s education ● iPads - provide any information that parents need to know about iPads at your school
Many before- and after-school enrichment and support opportunities are available for students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Eastern Heights offers an after-school Extended Day Learning (EDL) program two afternoons per week with transportation provided

Community Partnerships	
Our school develops community partnerships to provide additional support for students and their families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sanneh Foundation – Conway Recreation Center ● Open Arms Daycare and Pre-School ● Children’s Theatre Company – Neighborhood Bridges ● SteppingStone Theatre ● Dodge Nature Center ● Minnesota Orchestra ● Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra – CONNECT program ● Junior Achievement – BizTown ● Innocent Classroom Project ● Girl Scouts ● Boy Scouts ● Minnesota Landscape Arboretum ● Minnesota Humanities Commission – Bdote project ● Eastern Heights Lutheran Church – Sheridan Story ● Hazel Park United Church of Christ – Sheridan Story ● Holy Apostle Episcopal Church – Sheridan Story ● Hazel Park Recreation Center ● Heart of Dance ● Upstream Arts ● 3M ● NO BULLY Inc. ● Legal Rights Center ● Dispute Resolution Center ● Southeast St Paul Early Learning Coalition

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