

Our mission to honor the legacy of Gordon Parks by providing pathways to graduation and opportunities for lifelong success.

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

<p><b>Our school has staff member(s) available for families to discuss this plan and ask questions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Family Engagement Liaison: Paul Creager at <a href="mailto:paul.creager@spps.org">paul.creager@spps.org</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Our school communicates with families in many ways.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We distribute our FEP by posting the plan on the school website, including a summary in the orientation materials, keep hard copies in front office. During DL, we email and include in the newsletter and distribute via teachers &amp; Schoology.</li> <li>● We have created a GPHS Parent Compact and SCIP</li> <li>● We send out Connect Ed's, letters and postcard reminders of all school functions and events.</li> <li>● We aim to provide a welcoming and friendly environment for all students, parents and visitors and do our best to respond to any inquiries within 24 hours.</li> </ul>
<p><b>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.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● For more about our work on racial equity, contact 651-744-1212</li> <li>● Culturally responsive teacher training</li> </ul>
<p><b>Transitions between schools can be challenging, and we work to help families as their children start and leave our school.</b></p>	<p><b>For new students and families, we support the transition by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 3-week orientation, 3 week grading cycles</li> </ul> <p><b>For students and families moving to the next school in their pathway, we support the transition by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Career Resource Counselor</li> <li>● Senior cohorts</li> </ul>

## Family Partnerships

<p><b>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.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Copies of the compact are available: offered at conferences and orientation, copies available in the front office of Gordon Parks, and on the Gordon Parks High School website</li> <li>● The compact describes school and parent actions and highlights the importance of communication</li> <li>● The compact will be updated with parent input: each spring</li> </ul>
<p><b>There are many opportunities for families to build connections to the school and to each other.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Title I Annual Meeting where we will share information about school programs held at Gordon Parks and Title 1 implementation, requirements and opportunities for parent engagement</li> <li>● For those who cannot attend, we put the Powerpoint on our website</li> <li>● Conferences held quarterly to provide parents with opportunities to speak with teachers about student progress and learn about curriculum Dates: 10/22, 3/25</li> <li>● National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) will be on February 10, 2021</li> <li>● All parents are invited to events as chaperones</li> <li>● School Facebook page &amp; Schoology during DL 2.0</li> </ul>
<p><b>We work to make these meetings and events available for every family in the school.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We offer access to Hmong, Spanish and Somali translators at all conferences and upon request</li> <li>● We provide free transportation for parents who need support</li> <li>● Breakfast meetings for parents who are unable to meet after work, breakfast is provided</li> <li>● Each fall we have our Gordon Parks “kick off” event at Gordon Parks combined with the annual Title 1 meeting and other parent involvement activities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Our school supports families as advocates and provides opportunities for parent leadership</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● If any parents have concerns about their child’s learning, they are encouraged to contact our front office where we direct them to their counselor and/or set up meetings with teachers</li> <li>● Staff and families participates in the development of the SCIP and family engagement plans as well as receiving equity training.</li> <li>● Principal and parent liaison host breakfast Parent Principal Chats.</li> <li>● GPHS provides school wide Digital Citizenship training experiences</li> </ul>

## Teaching and Learning

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Our school shares information about state standards, assessment and student achievement with families in multiple ways</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Parents are encouraged to check Parent Portal every 3 weeks to check grades, printed copies available upon request</li> <li>● Parent-Teacher conferences held every quarter</li> <li>● Student CLPs are handed out quarterly and printed upon request</li> <li>● Parents invited to chaperone and attend all school events</li> <li>● Orientation for new students overviews curriculum &amp; state standard alignment</li> <li>● Gordon Parks Legacy class (required for all incoming students) includes overview of GPHS curriculum from the past</li> <li>● We blend teacher-originated curriculum with community stakeholder (including parents) originated curriculum. Planning for community curriculum occurs during quarterly outreach events</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Our school will engage in personalized learning as a key strategy to accelerate student achievement. Parents can get more information using many tools.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Schoology is used for assignments and grading throughout the term</li> <li>● Grades are updated every 3 week on parent portal</li> <li>● Parent Portal login information is available by contacting: Ashley Wandrick or going to <a href="https://spps.org/onestop">spps.org/onestop</a></li> <li>● iPad adoption including</li> <li>● Newsela</li> <li>● Xello</li> <li>● 1:1 iPad ratio</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Many before and after-school enrichment and support opportunities are available for students</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We do not provide afterschool support because of evening high school</li> </ul>

## Community Partnerships

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Our school develops community partnerships to provide additional support for students and their families</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Student of the month/ Rotary club</li> <li>● Development of city community park: City of Saint Paul, Skyline Tower, Neighborhood, Trust for Public Land</li> <li>● Connection with Rondo Land Bridge</li> <li>● SoulTouch Productions</li> <li>● Ananya Dance Theatre</li> </ul>
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This plan is available as part of our school’s SCIP, or School Comprehensive Improvement Plan at [spps.org/scip](https://spps.org/scip), is on our school website at [Gordonparks.spps.org](https://Gordonparks.spps.org), and printed copies are available in the office.