What is a Family-School Compact?

A Family-School Compact for Achievement is an agreement that parents, students and teachers develop together. It explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all students get the individual support they need to reach and exceed grade level standards.

Jointly Developed with Parents

The parents of Benjamin E. Mays IB World School helped develop this Compact for Achievement. School wide meetings are held each year to update the compact. Parents are welcome to contribute comments at any time.

For more information on the 3rd grade compact, please contact Karen Shanahan at Karen.shanahan@spps.org or 651.325.2400.

Communicating about Learning

Benjamin E. Mays IB World School is committed to communicating regularly with families about children’s learning. Some of the ways you can expect us to communicate are:

- Weekly Highlights e-mail
- Bi-Weekly Classroom Newsletters
- Teachers will give families their contact information at the start of the school year.

Do you have questions about your child’s progress? Contact their teacher.

Activities to Support Partnerships

Conferences
November 12, 3:00-6:00 pm
November 14, 3:00-6:00 pm
November 15, 3:00-6:00 pm
March 17, 3:00-6:00 pm
March 19, 3:00-6:00 pm
March 20, 8:30am-2:00 pm

Parent Workshops and Advocacy
Title I Night/Mays CAFE October 24, 5:30-7:30 pm
Take Your Parent to School Days for Pre-K, K, 1st, & 2nd (dates TBD)
Mays CAFE January 23, 5:30-7:30 pm
Year in Review, April 16 (time TBD)

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
Tuesday, September 10, 6:00-7:00 pm
Tuesday, December 10, 6:00-7:00 pm
Tuesday, January 14, 6:00-7:00 pm
Tuesday, April 14, 6:00-7:00 pm
Tuesday, May 12, 6:00-7:00 pm

Family Engagement Events
Meet & Greet August 29, 4:30-6:00 pm
Fall Festival September 27, 5:30-7:30 pm
IB Showcase, December 12, 5:30-7:00 pm
National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) February 10, all day event
IB Showcase, February 27, 5:30-7:00 pm
Movie Night March 5, 6:00-8:00 pm
Culture Night Thursday, May 7, 5:30-7:00 pm
IB 5th Grade Exhibition May 28, 5:30-7:30 pm

Classroom Visits
Parents are encouraged to visit. Please contact your teacher to make arrangements if you plan to visit more than 20 minutes.
District Goals

District Goals for Student Achievement
More at spps.org/strategicplan

- Decrease disparities based on race, ethnicity, culture and identity
- Increase achievement of English Learners
- Increase achievement of students receiving special education services
- Improve kindergarten readiness
- Increase academic growth in reading and math for all students
- Prepare all graduates for college, career and life

School Goals

Reading:
The percent of student scoring proficient or higher in reading will increase from 18.4% to 35% by Spring 2020 as measured by the MCA.

Math:
The percent of students scoring proficient or higher in math will increase from 16% to 35% by Spring 2020 as measured by the MCA.

In the Third Grade Classroom

The third grade team will work with students and their families to support students’ academic success. Some of our key connections with families will be:

- Third grade will focus on reading fluency and comprehension. We will teach students to be reflective when they read.
- Goal of 40 minutes sustained reading by the end of the year. Students will visit the school library and Library Go! St. Paul Public Library information will be provided to parents.
- Provide links on the grade level page of the school website to sites which build student skills in basic facts
  - multiplication
  - division
- Provide math fact games during Parent Teacher Conferences to help students gain automaticity.
- At the beginning of each IB unit, an IB Programme of Inquiry brochure will be sent home.
- Third Grade will host an IB Showcase event inviting the community to school to explore one of their IB units.

At Home

Benjamin E. Mays IB World School parents joined staff to develop ideas about how families can support students’ success in reading and math. Families may have other ideas to add to this list:

- Make sure my student has easy, enjoyable books to read.
- Have informal book “chats” with my child. Possible ways to discuss books:
  - Non-fiction questions
    - “What did you find out?”
    - “What was interesting or new?”
    - “What did you learn?”
  - Fiction questions
    - “Who was in this story?”
    - “What were they like?”
    - “What happened in the story? (beginning, middle, end)
- Remind my child to check backpack daily for notes and homework.
- Attend the IB Showcase event and look for the IB Programme of Inquiry brochures.
- Visit the library.
- Look for Weekly Highlights e-mail.

Benjamin E. Mays Students

Benjamin E. Mays IB World School students joined staff and parents to develop ideas about how they can succeed in school and reach for the stars in math and reading. Students thought of the following ideas to make connections between learning at home and school:

- Read at home 20 minutes every day and talk to my family about what I read.
- Check out the math websites suggested by the teacher.
- Play the math fact games.
- Bring the classroom newsletter and IB Programme of Inquiry brochures home and show them to my parents.