



**Bruce F. Vento Elementary
2020-2021 Family Engagement Plan**

Bruce F. Vento Mission

Vento Elementary School educates every student, without exception and without excuse, to standard or above in reading, writing, math and science in preparation for college.

Values

At Vento we hold these unwavering values for our students:

We value **Collaboration**

We value **Racial Equity and Access**

We value **Whole Child Development**

We value **Positive and Safe Environment** We value **Innovation**

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	Family Liaison: Gretchen Ray-Jensen
Our school communicates with families in many ways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Newsletter • Automated calls • School Website • Flyers • Emails • Individual Phone Calls • Classroom Apps- Seesaw and Schoology • Text Messages • Google Meet Sessions <p>Communication Expectations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When families call or email, Vento staff does it's best to respond within 24 hours through a note, phone calls, or email.
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.	For more about our work on racial equity, contact: Principal Laura Saatzer
Transitions between schools can be challenging, and we work to help families as their children start and leave our school.	For new students and families, we support the transition by offering opportunities to explore school such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome phone calls to new Pre-K families

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-K Family Connect Meetings • Pre-K Family Days • School Tours • Fall Open House • Provide resources to support transition to school for new students and families <p>Elementary Schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPPS Office of Early Learning builds a relationship with Head Start programs. Bruce F. Vento Elementary focuses on building relationships with preschool families focused on creating a connection prior to their children starting Pre-K. <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"> • Pre-K and Kindergarten families visit for, “Family Day.” Family day takes place in the Fall and Spring of each school year. • Families can set up school tours to learn about all Bruce F. Vento Elementary has to offer. • 5th Grade participates in a mock Middle School Day at Vento to support the transition.
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Family Partnerships	
<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: School Main Office, Family Room, Fall Open House, and Fall and Spring Conferences. The Compact is available on the Bruce Vento Elementary website. • The compact will be updated: Fall 2020
<p>There are many opportunities for families to build connections to the school and to each other.</p>	<p>Title I Annual Meeting where we will share information about school programs will take place October 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall Family Night (Title I Meeting) • Family Connect Meetings (Weekly) • Academic Seminars • Take your parent to school day • ELL Family Night • National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) will be on February, 2021 • Unity Night • Parent Universities (Three times a year) • Pre-K Family Connect • Pre-K Family Days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Visits – Vento staff connect with families through home visits when it is the best option for the family. Social Workers and Teachers schedule visit times.
<p>We work to make these meetings and events available for every family in the school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpreters are available during the school day, after-school, and at school events.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School meetings are held at various times to support family's schedules. Staff make every effort to schedule meetings at times that work best for families. • Fliers and phone calls are sent out in four languages to ensure all families can gain information regarding upcoming events, activities, and other important content.
<p>Our school supports families as advocates and provides opportunities for parent leadership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process for families to voice concerns regarding their child's learning starts with contacting the child's teacher. If concerns continue families are encouraged to reach out to grade level social worker and/ or school Principals. • Vento staff received Professional Development on Love and Logic February 2020. This session encompassed the essentials of Love and Logic parent perspectives on Love and Logic. Professional Development related to supporting families and creating partnerships will take place in January 2021. • Families involved in weekly Family Connect meetings provide input on the Family Engagement Plan three times a year. Families are asked in the Fall, Winter, and Spring for feedback related ways Bruce F. Vento Elementary can improve support of all families.

Teaching and Learning	
<p>Our school shares information about state standards, assessment and student achievement with families in multiple ways</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report cards and progress reports will be distributed during school conferences and are available upon request through the main office. • Parent-Teacher conferences are held in November 2020 and March 2021 • Elementary students not reading at grade level will receive reading support, small group instruction, and focus on building phonics skills • Family nights will be held to enhance skills being taught in the classroom as well as after school family enrichment sessions will occur three times over the course of the school year • Academic Seminars will be held monthly to provide families will the tools to support learning outside of school.
<p>Our school will engage in personalized learning as a key strategy to accelerate student achievement. Parents can get more information using many tools.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent log-in information can be accessed at spps.org/onestop or by asking the school clerk • iPads will be utilized in classrooms to support learning while enhancing academic growth

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom teachers share important information through class newsletter, Schoology and/or Seesaw, and the classroom webpage. Upcoming assignments as well as students work may be shared to engage families in classroom activities
Many before- and after-school enrichment and support opportunities are available for students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EDL (twice a week afterschool), Wilder Recreation Center, and Salvation Army Programs

Community Partnerships	
Our school develops community partnerships to provide additional support for students and their families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Stabilization Project, Second Harvest, Hmong American Partnership, C.L.U.E.S., American Indian Family Center, Metropolitan State University, Northwestern College, Family Values for Life, Washington High School JROTC Program, Cub Foods, Aurora/ St. Anthony Neighborhood Development Corporation, Ramsey County Children’s Mental Health Services, Arlington Hills Library, St. Paul Bookmobile, Wilder Recreation Center, Urban Roots, Midwest Food Group, SNAP Extension Programs, East Side Learning Center, St. Paul Parks and Recs Programs, Neighborhood House and East Side Freedom Library.

This plan is available as part of our school’s SCIP, or School Comprehensive Improvement Plan at spps.org/domain/4362, is on our school website at spps.org/vento, and printed copies are available in the office.