**2021-2022 Family Engagement Plan**

At Mississippi Creative Arts, we provide for students a school community where they can be creative, inspired, achieve academic success, and they can perform, as well as celebrate their accomplishments.

The Family Engagement Plan (FEP) is organized into four impact areas. We will be working together this year to build positive and goal-organized 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:** Timothy Dopson
  
  Dr. Lydia Kabaka- Principal
  
  Concha Fernandez Del Rey, Assistant Principal

Our school communicates with families in many ways.

- Parent/ Guardians phone calls/emails, or notes are answered within 24 hours. Interpreters in Spanish, Hmong and Karen are available to families.

- Principal makes sure that information is communicated through ConnectEd. School’s Quarterly Newsletter, SY 21-22 Calendar, Website and Virtual meetings: spps. Mississippi.org

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:

  - Timothy Dopson
  - Lydia Kabaka-Principal
  - Concha Fernandez- Assistant Principal

  Inclusion and Equity Task Force

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:

- An informational table will be available to answer questions during the Fall Open House. The Open House date will be published in the SY 21-22 Family and Community calendar.

- Providing guided visits by staff personnel.

- Outline specific coordination with Head Start and other preschool programs.

- Annual Meeting in the Winter/Spring of 2022

We work with our OEL parent liaison to plan parent visits to schools and collect feedback.

For students and families moving to the next school in their pathway, we support the transition by:

- Orientation visits to the pathway schools and family night with staff from pathway schools
Family Partnerships

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.

· Copies of the compact are available:
  · Main Office: To be distributed when parents/guardians register their child.
  · Open House for parents/guardians to discuss as it relates to the individual child’s achievement.
  · Compacts are shared on school websites and at conferences.
· The compact will be updated: September 2021 by staff and parents
  - Monthly Virtual MPO/PTA Meetings

Discussed at Open House, Fall conferences, Spring conferences, Home visits

There are many opportunities for families to build connections to the school and to each other.

· Title I Annual Meeting where we will share information about school programs: October 19 (MPO) meeting
  - Tuesday Talk (2nd Tuesday of the month) twice annually. Is an informal virtual meeting for families to build connections and to share information with school.
    · Arts Crawl
    · Arts Integration Night
    · School Gatherings/ Achievement Awards Celebrations
    · Monthly Parent Organization (MPO) Nights
    · PTA (Parent Teacher Association)
    · Parent Teacher Home Visit Project to resume fall of 2021
    · Art Residencies
    · Showcases

We work to make these meetings and events available for every family in the school.

· Transportation and childcare is provided for some events depending on the activity.
· Most documents will be translated into Karen, Hmong and Spanish via Newsletters, Flyers and Blackboard Connect

Karen, Hmong and Spanish interpreters will be present at all the school events.

· We will hold a monthly Family Night (MPO) 3rd Tuesday of the month that includes family dinner, and activities to inform, engage and/or assist parents raising their child's academic achievement level. We will also offer MPO to families using google meets on-line format. Tuesday Talk (2nd Tuesday of the month) Twice annually. It is an informal monthly virtual meeting for families to build connections and to share information with school.
· Bilingual Educational Assistants will reach out to families by phone to remove barriers to parents/guardian participation

· Communication around the Arts will be available at conferences.

Art showcases will be announced via newsletters, flyers and blackboard connect.

Mississippi Creative Arts is committed to communicating regularly with families about children’s learning. These are some of the ways:

- Weekly/Bi-weekly School to Home communication Folder

- Communication log between home and school. Data collection shows three types of communication and how often they communicate with families.

- Quarterly (trimestral) communication goals. Goals must reflect a higher ratio of communication on positive student behavior to negative.

- During Distance Learning all meetings will be conducted on the virtual google meets platform

- Parent Teacher Home Visit

**Our school supports families as advocates and provides opportunities for parent leadership**

Mississippi Creative Arts will provide professional development to teachers and service personnel and staff in the value and utility of contributions of families, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with families as equal partners, implement and coordinate family programs, and build ties between families and the school. Equity team and speakers will be provided.

· Mississippi Creative Arts will involve families by providing information in a format and in a language that families can understand.

· Sharing the documents to seek parent input at different meetings/activities.

- PTA

- Surveys

- Parent representative on Leadership Team

- MPO using google meets on-line format

- Tuesday Talk meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of month 4x’s annually.

**Teaching and Learning**

Our school shares information about state standards, assessment and student achievement with families in multiple ways.

**Report cards and progress reports will be distributed:**

**During Open House (TBD) standards will be shared at each grade level with families**

**Information will be shared with families: on school website, virtual conferences and individual teacher virtual platforms**

**MPO-Monthly Parent Organization meetings**

Ø Fall Conferences (November TBD 2021 evening)

Ø Spring Conferences (March 2021 TBD Evening & March TBD Day)

Ø End of the Year Report-Mailed to families
Parent-Teacher conferences are held

Ø Fall conferences
November
Interpreters will be provided for parent-teacher conference

Ø Spring conferences
March
Interpreters will be provided for parent-teacher conferences.

Ø Reading Support for Students not at grade level in K-5
Ø Math Intervention
Ø English Language Services
Ø Share information with families about how to support students' reading success.
Ø Provide parents with tools for learning vocabulary, letter and sound

- Instructional coaches will present on standard based curriculum and standards at an annual Mississippi Parent Organization Meetings 3rd Tuesdays of the month unless specified starting in October 2021.

October: all grade levels begin arts integration in collaboration with a specialist teacher

January: all school arts integration in preparation for Arts Festival

Celebrate Me. Celebrate Community! Arts Festival - Families invited to participate in the many art activities hosted by professional and youth artists from around the area. Families are invited to watch MCAS children perform along with other professional and youth artists.

Arts Integration Night

Art Showcase Days: All School Digital Showcase TBD

Student-Led Assemblies: Monthly - student groups perform and awards are given related to the arts, academics, and Mississippi Creative Arts PBIS Goals and Expectations

Women and Girls in Sports Events: Meetings for students and families are being planned and will cover benefits of playing sports (teamwork, how to get along, being a good winner and loser), proper nutrition, sleep habits. Students will participate with area youth who are teaching a skill specific to a sport with a warm up and cool down. Students will view videos from area youth who tell their sport story and what sport has given them. Students will also participate in various Sports Days that will be coached by area coaches. Time frame TBD.

Artist Residencies - professional artists work with a grade level in a specific art form (4th Grade - Shadow Puppetry, 2nd Grade - Dance from Around the World, 3rd Grade - Minnesota Birds of Migration) Other grade levels will have the opportunity to participate in Co-led residencies while a professional artist works alongside the classroom teacher.

National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) February, 2021-2022 Date TBD
Our school will engage families in Personalized Learning as a key strategy to accelerate student achievement. Parents can get more information using many tools.

- Parent Portal is available by contacting: Concha Fernandez Del Rey, AP
- Parent Teacher Home Visits (PTHV) seeks to build the partnerships between parents and educators that are essential to providing quality education to all students, regardless of their race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, immigration status, or ability.

**Distance Learning (Virtual Platforms Seesaw & Schoology) 2020-2021** Primary teachers PreK-2nd are using SeeSaw through Ipads as an additional way to communicate with families. PreK-2nd are using their Ipads to access learning sites through SeeSaw at home. Intermediate teachers 3-5 are using Schoology as an additional way to communicate with families and for student use at home to access educational lessons.

**Many before- and after-school enrichment and support opportunities are available for students**

- EDL
- Tutors
- Girl Scouts
- Washington High School Tutoring Program

**Community Partnerships**

Our school develops community partnerships to provide additional support for students and their families

- Family Innovations
- Children’s Crisis Center
- McDonough Recreation Center
- Project Reach
- Keystone (Hmong Youth & Family Program)
- Osiris Organization-Tutoring
- Wilder
- Mn Museum
- Rice Street Library
- East Side Council

**Arts Partnerships**

- Art Start
- Cowles Center Dance Without Barriers Residency Program
- Connect Orchestra
- Arts Pathways
- Siama’s Congo
- VocalEssence Witness
- Center of Equity and Culture
- In Progress
- Interact
- Heart of Dance
- Neighborhood Bridges
- Coalition of Women and Girls in Sports
- Eastside Arts Council
- Minnesota Institute of Art
This plan is available as part of our school’s SCIP, or School Comprehensive Improvement Plan at [scip.spps.org](http://scip.spps.org), is on our school website at school.spps.org, and printed copies are available in the office.

Translation Services

- If Spanish translation is needed: Para hacer preguntas en español, por favor llame a Ms. Lorena al 651-293-8840.

- If Hmong translation is needed: Yog koj muaj lus nug thov hu tuaj rau Neng Moua ntawm tus xov tooj 651-293-8840.

- If Karen translation is needed: