

2023-2024 Family Engagement Plan

We believe middle school can be the most exciting part of a child’s education. At Battle Creek Middle, teachers not only teach students, but partner with them and their families to provide encouragement and inspiration.

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>Our school has staff member(s) available for families to discuss this plan and ask questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Liaison: See Vang • Social Worker Special Education: Carrie Johnson & Heather Fretty • School Social Worker: Katherine Gorham • Counselors: Kia Yang, Kim Rinehart and Nimol Ou • Principal: Oulia Yang
<p>Our school communicates with families in many ways.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have an active presence on social media: Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Our school newsletter is available Bi-weekly on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and on BCMS website. Parents may also receive the newsletter via email or link on text. We utilize email, Blackboard Connect voice/ email/text to transmit information. Teachers reach out through phone calls, email, and notes home. Check our website to keep up to date: https://www.spps.org/BCMS • We do our best to respond within 24 hours to all communication. Families can always set up meetings with staff and teachers by calling 651-293-8960. When requested, we will do our best to provide translators. • Families can monitor attendance and grades through Parent Portal and Schoology.

BATTLE CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCMS will provide opportunities for families to gather and communicate
<p>The achievement gap, or rather the “opportunity gap,” between students of color and white students in SPPS 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 families to support their learning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For more about our work on racial equity, contact: Oulia Yang, Principal: Building operation, Parent Advisory Committee, Staff Professional Development, PBIS, Equity Leadership Team, and EDL • Carlottia Ruff, Assistant Principal: Parent Engagement, Check & Connect Contact, Climate & Culture Team, Science Team Lead • Melissa Kuhl-Schuehle, Assistant Principal: AVID Lead, Safety Team, Intervention Specialists, Extracurricular Activities, and Equity Leadership Team • Teng Lo: Assistant Principal: Building Scheduler, School Assessment Team, PLC Lead, Math Team Lead
<p>Transitions between schools can be challenging, and we work to help families as their children start and leave our school.</p>	<p>For new students and families, we support the transition by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August BCMS Kick Off for the entire school community, with special attention paid to incoming students (welcome information, meet the staff, after school program information, Title One information). • September Open House and Title One Meeting (If you miss the event, you can schedule a walk through with the Family Liaison anytime by calling 651-293-8960 for an appointment.) • Counselor visits to feeder Elementary schools, Elementary students are invited for tours. Eighth graders visit high schools, and have alumni return to speak. • For students and families moving to the next school in their pathway, we support the transition by: Classroom visits from BCMS graduates and offering tours to Harding and Johnson. • Incoming Registration Night in May

Family Partnerships	
<p>Our family-school 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: In the office, online, on display in the building. They are also available for students to take home in September. • The compact will be updated: Every spring.
<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 where we will share information about school programs. • Monthly Coffee with the Principal (morning). Monthly Parent Council Advisory Meetings (evenings). • Parent Academy • National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) will be on February 12, 2024, Asian Heritage Month celebration, Music Department Showcase, 8th Grade Celebration, 5K Fun Run in June, and the BCMS Talent Shows. • Parents and guardians are invited to chaperone BCMS fieldtrips, athletic events, and “student versus staff” competitions. • Conference Nights: We will invite community resource liaisons to be on hand during conferences. • There are 7 staff in the building who have been trained in home visit through the PTHV (Parent Teacher Home Visit Program) who are available to go to the home as needed.
<p>We work to make these meetings and events available for every family in the school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference information will be translated into our most used primary languages. Family Engagement information will be

	<p>translated as well, and in the event, it isn't, families will be alerted that they can request translations at any time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Interpreters will be offered for all on-site meetings. Light snack and beverages will be provided. ● Both translated Blackboard Connect (formerly Connect Ed) phone calls and flyers will be available.
<p>Our school supports families as advocates and provides opportunities for parent leadership.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● BCMS will hold breakout sessions for iUpdate, Parent Portal, and Schoology during open house. We will actively seek family input into the effectiveness of these communication tools. ● Families are invited 2-4 times a year to share information about their students and the school. ● Parents and guardians can volunteer to judge History Day submissions and other academic competitions. ● The Family Liaison will provide professional development created in conjunction with BCMS families at one staff meeting and will share updates at Leadership Team Meetings. ● Families will be invited to add input into school improvement planning via surveys and open discussion meetings at Family Nights and other on-site meetings.

Teaching and Learning	
<p>Our school shares information about state standards, assessment, student achievement with families in multiple ways.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Report cards and progress reports will be distributed via email, on Parent Portal and at conferences: quarterly. ● Parent-Teacher conferences are held three times a year, quarter 1, 2, and 3. ● Grade-specific Family Nights, Parent Portal, iUpdate, and Schoology assistance evenings. ● Family Forum meetings specific to Title One requirements: FEP and SCIP and Compact. We will actively seek parent/guardian feedback and suggestions.
<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 offer tutorial in the fall ● Teachers have an on-site reading specialist to coach them through adding new strategies to their skill sets. ● Schoology– information shared at Open House, Orientation, Conferences, and on the website.
<p>Many before and after-school enrichment and support opportunities are available for students.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Athletics ● Flipside ● WEB Leadership ● Dare2BReal ● Genius Squad

Community Partnerships	
Our school develops community partnerships to provide additional support for students and their families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3M, Every Meal (formerly The Sheridan Story Food Assistance program), TRIO, Marvelous Mitten Makers, The Panther Pantry (hygiene supplies students can access for free), and Focus Minnesota

Translations of this material are available by calling 651-293-8960.

HMONG Cov ntawv no peb muaj txhais ua lwm hom lus. Yog hais tias xav tau, thov hu rau tsev kawm ntawv ntawm 651-293-8960.

SPANISH Traducciones disponibles. Por favor llame a la oficina al 651-293-8960.

SOMALI Macluumaad turjuman ayaa la helayaa. Fadlan wac xafiiska iskuulka 651-293-8960.

KAREN နေမာ်ဆိန်ဒီးဖးလၢကညီကိုင်န့ၣ်, ဝံသးစုၤကိးဘၣ်ကွီၣ်ဝဲၤဒးၤဖဲ ၆၅၁-၂၉၃-၈၉၆၀ 651-293-8960.

This plan is available as part of our school’s SCIP, or School Comprehensive Improvement Plan at [spps.org/scip](https://www.spps.org/scip). It is visible on our school website at <https://www.spps.org/BCMS>. Printed copies are available in the office.