Instruction

SCHOOL, PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

BARANOF ELEMENTARY

AR 6015 (a)

Overview

Baranof Elementary views families as full and integral partners in their student’s education at school. Family-school partnerships improve schools, strengthen families, build community support, and increase student achievement and success. The purpose of this policy is to encourage active family engagement and to define how Baranof Elementary will facilitate this.

Joint Development

This policy was jointly developed with family members. District and school administration requested input through staff and family input, focus groups and surveys.

In general, the Sitka School District plans broadly for all programming and then allocates resources, including Federal funding, as appropriate and available. Family members will participate in developing the District ESEA Plan, Consolidated Grant Applications, and School Improvement Plans through the District Strategic Planning Process and school-based planning processes.

Annual Title IA Meeting

Annually, Baranof Elementary will host a Title IA meeting, at a time convenient for families of children receiving Title IA funded services. The school will provide information on the Title IA program and request input on the programming and on this family involvement policy.

Communication

Baranof Elementary will provide families of participating children with the following, in an understandable format, at the annual meeting, parent conferences, or via mail or e-mail:

- Timely information about the school’s Title IA programming
- A copy of or link to the school and district family engagement policies
- A description of the curriculum and assessments used and the achievement levels of the challenging state academic standards
- If requested by parents, the opportunity for regular meetings to give input into school planning
- Information on any programming provided to parents/families
Coordination

Baranof Elementary will coordinate family engagement efforts made under the requirements of Title IA with other family engagement activities taking place within the school. The school will also coordinate with the District and local partners to provide additional supports and resources to families.

Building Capacity of Parents and Family Members

Baranof Elementary will build Title I parents’ and family members’ capacity for school engagement by providing assistance in understanding academic standards and assessments, how to monitor student progress, how to work with educators to support students, and the requirements of Title IA. The school may also provide training to families to develop the skills needed to help their children improve their academic achievement.

Building Capacity of School Staff

Baranof Elementary will provide annual professional learning to teachers and staff, to include:

- The value of parental contributions
- How to communicate to parents
- How to work with parents as equal partners
- How to implement parent programs
- How to build ties between parents and the schools

SCHOOL-FAMILY-STUDENT COMPACT

The purpose is to define how schools, families, and students will share responsibility for academic achievement and was developed with families through focus groups and surveys.

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES

Provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment, including:

- Evidence-based core academic and social-emotional learning curricula
- Multi-tiered systems of support for both academics and behavior, intended to serve the diverse needs of all students
- Effective teaching practices
- Positive Behavior Interventions and Support
• Data-informed instruction and class placement

Host biannual parent-teacher conferences, at which this compact may be discussed. Conferences are held in late October or early November and also in late February or early March.

Provide parents/guardians regular reports on their children’s progress as follows:

• Report cards are done on a trimester basis and handed out at Parent/Teacher Conferences. The final report card is sent home in students’ school/home communication folders.
• Parents will be notified of students’ universal screener scores in the fall, winter, and spring.
• Parents will be notified each day students are absent.
• When students are not making adequate progress, parents will be notified.

Provide parents reasonable access to staff:

• Teachers can be reached by calling their classroom number before or after school. You may leave a message and they will return your call. You can also reach them by sending an email. Staff directory is available at sitkaschools.org
• School Principal, Mrs. Lecrone, can be reached at 907-747-5825 or at lecronej@sitkaschools.org
• Staff email addresses and phone numbers can be found in the staff directory on the district website at www.sitkaschools.org
• Family members are invited to call the school at 907-747-5825 to make an appointment with staff

Provide families with opportunities to volunteer, observe, or participate in their children’s school day, such as:

• Volunteering in the classroom or chaperoning field trips
• Setting up times to observe students in the classroom, specials or recess
• Inviting families to evening activities
• Including families in the development of yearly evening activities
• Participating in our school wide special activities (family BBQ, popcorn and movie in the gym, winter caroling, and cookie decorating party).
• Facilitating meaningful, two-way communication between family members and school staff by:
Holding monthly Baranof Family Meetings where staff and families discuss school needs and happenings, upcoming events, opportunities to volunteer, and group problem-solving.

Hosting monthly schoolwide assemblies which all families are encouraged to attend

Creating and distributing monthly newsletters

Replying to emails or voicemails in a timely manner

**FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Family members may support student learning in the following ways:

- Showing kindness and support for student, teachers, and Baranof Elementary School Staff
- Ensuring regular and timely attendance- try for no more than five tardies or absences in a year
- Establishing healthy bedtime routines that ensure student gets 8-10 hours of sleep each night
- Safeguarding student from exposure to violence and drug/alcohol abuse
- Monitoring and limiting student’s time on TV, computer, iPad, and cellphones
- Attending the September Family Event
- Ensuring student eats a nutritious breakfast, either at home or at school
- Participating in decisions about student education and staying informed about school events by reading notices sent home
- Participating in school and district planning and surveys
- Advocating for student’s needs at school
- Talking supportively about school at home
- Supporting student in completing homework and reading together every day
- Encouraging student to do their best and stick to it when school is hard

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Students can influence their own success by doing the following:

- Following school wide expectation-Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Respectful
- Coming to school willing to participate and learn
- Trying their best in academic work and behavior
- Asking for help when needed
• Communicating with teachers, principals, family members, and/or other caring adults about school experiences
• Showing respect for themselves, the school, and others
• Believing in themselves

SITKA SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADOPTION DATE: March 3, 2021