

Emerald Academy School Level Family Engagement Plan 2023-2024

Tennessee Standards for Family -School Partnerships are:

Standard 1: Welcoming all families into the school community

Standard 2: Communicating effectively

Standard 3: Supporting student success

Standard 4: Speaking up for every child

Standard 5: Sharing power

Standard 6: Collaborating with community

The policy addresses the federal and state requirements and supports the goals in the STAR plan, as well as Senate bill N. 293, which, requires schools to comply with the six standards above.

Standard 1: Welcoming all families into the school community:

Emerald Academy has completed the following steps:

- Ongoing activities are planned to engage parents throughout the year in connection with academic initiatives. These activities focus on strengthening the connection between the parents and the school and providing academic strategies for parents. These are in the form of family nights and happen at least once a quarter.
- The school's main source of communication is ClassDojo which is very user friendly and requested by parents.
- Our school has developed a Family Engagement team that meets with all families prior to enrollment for a tour and introduction
 - Parent ambassadors are often used to help recruit new families and support other families
- Parents are invited once per quarter to parent conferences per school policy

- Our school has developed a school website that is updated regularly
- Summer events to stay engaged with the community and families

The family engagement events that meet the criteria for Standard 1 include:

- “Welcome Back Night”: July 27th 2023. Parents and children are invited to come to school to become familiar with the school, classroom and meet the teacher.
- Summer Pool parties: June 29th and July 7th, 2023
- Parent Night: September 19th 2023. Stem focus (K-2), math and ELA challenges (3-5), Mental Health 101 guests w/ Calling and Career Support (6-8)
- Parent Night: November 14th 2023. Literacy night (K-5), High School Options presentation & Transfer Application Workshop #1; Calling and Career support for college & career choices (6-8)
- Parent Night: January 30th, 2023. Math challenges (K-2), Carnival (3-5), Community service event; transfer workshop #2 (6-8)
- Fall Festival: October 20th 2023
- Book Fair: December 11th-15th. Families invited to shop
- Unity Hall Celebrations. Quarterly, parents invited to attend
- Parent conferences quarterly
- Scholar of the Month Breakfast, parents invited

Standard 2: Communicating Effectively

- Student handbooks are sent home at the beginning of the year, which contains school policies and expectations. The handbook can also be found on the website
- Title I handbooks were sent home at the beginning of the year
- All communication comes from ClassDojo. Merits and demerits are issued daily with notes to parents

- At least weekly, teachers will send home newsletters for the upcoming week's academic focus
- Teachers are asked to call parents of all their students bi-weekly for updates
- Parents are sent progress reports every 4½ weeks for those students that are in RTI2.
- Interim reports are sent home every 4½ weeks to inform parents of progress
- Report cards are sent home every 9 weeks for parents to review
- The director and grade band directors maintain an open-door policy for parents, teachers and students to discuss concerns or answer questions
- School Director hosts month breakfast with parents
- The school has a Twitter account, Dojo page, school website and Facebook page where we share activities and events
- School Director sends robo call and post school newsletter every Sunday via Class Dojo
- Parent survey posted in office all year for feedback

Standard 3: Supporting Student Success

- Scholar of the month celebrations
- Scholar of the week celebrations
- Quarterly awards celebrations
- NWEA MAP data is tracked and celebrated 3 times a year
- Class Dojo merits issued daily for positive behavior
- Grade Band Directors work with teachers through coaching cycles (bi-weekly) to increase teacher knowledge and improve student achievement.
- S-Team meetings are held as a process to support students struggling with academics, behavior and attendance. This process may lead to formal referrals for academic testing.
- Content Lead Meetings are held once a month for expert teachers to support others

- Students that test at the 25% or below are placed in intervention groups led by a licensed interventionist or content teacher
- A backpack program is provided for students who need food for the weekend. Second Harvest supplies the food items for this program
- Local churches, community members, teachers and Emerald Youth Foundation support students in need of school supplies, uniform assistance, food, and housing.
- The school has a partnership with Cherokee Health to offer telemedicine services and other medical support.
- Partnership with behavior liaison through a local college to provide FBAs and behavior support
- Scholars are enrolled into the LEAD program if they need additional behavior support

Standard 4: Speaking Up for Every Child

- Community volunteers are assigned to work with specific students on referral basis to support them emotionally and academically through mentor programs
- Students that test at the 25% or below are placed in intervention groups led by a licensed interventionist or content teacher
- S-Team meetings are held as a process to support students struggling with academics, behavior and attendance. This process may lead to formal referrals for academic testing.
- RTI meetings are held once a month The purpose of these meetings is to discuss academic progress.
- The school has a partnership with Cherokee Health to offer telemedicine services and other medical support, such as counseling and therapy
- Scholars are enrolled into the LEAD program if they need additional behavior support

Standard 5: Sharing Power

- Parent meetings are held once a quarter that outline the grade level expectations, curriculum, student materials and classroom expectations, as well as student progress
- A school-wide school meeting is held to discuss the Title I program and the benefits of this program for students are presented
- A student handbook is distributed to all students in the fall. The handbook is also located on our website
- Title I handbooks are sent home during the first week of school.
- A weekly newsletters, Class Dojo, our website and the marquee are used to present information to stakeholders
- PTA board meetings are held with staff members and interested parents to discuss plans for expenditures, events and the needs of the students
- The administration oversees all teacher evaluation and programs.
- The Leadership Team meets on a weekly basis to voice their concerns and praises about our school, in addition to planning events, PD opportunities
- Grade Band directors meet with the School Director once a week to review challenges and accomplishments within their grade levels.

Standard 6: Collaborating with Community

- Community partners support the school through a variety of ways-volunteering, working with specific programs and monetarily
- The PTSA is a constant source of support by providing volunteers, Fall Festival, and providing teachers with snacks and a luncheon during Teacher Appreciation Week. They also plan events for the school such as dances, Read Across America Day, and more.
- Emerald Youth Foundation provides volunteers at school wide events and specifically during state testing

- Emerald Youth Foundation contracts services to the school such as maintenance and technology assistance
- Local churches have provided dinners to families at parent nights