



Bale Elementary School

Parent and Family Engagement Plan & Information Packet 2021-2022

Bale Committee Members

Mrs. Roxie Browning, Principal
Counselor/Parent Facilitator- Julia Cartwright
Krystal Rowe, Parent/Paraprofessional/Parent Liaison
Ms. Pamela Tims, Instructional Technology Paraprofessional
Trinina Pouncy-Behavior Interventionist
Mrs. Lori Noel-Green, Media Specialist
Miss. Colby Thompson, Teacher
Dr. Kimberly Jones, Teacher

Mission Statement: At Bale Elementary, we are committed to providing a safe, creative, and challenging learning environment which empowers the academic, emotional, and social growth of all learners. We will prepare our 21st Century learners for college and career options by building effective relationships, engaging in a relevant and rigorous curriculum, and reflecting on our practices daily.

Vision: Committed to empowering innovative, independent, critical thinkers.

Core Belief: At Bale Elementary, **Learning and Growth are REQUIRED.**

Core Values: In each learning opportunity we value the implementation of:

- Developing **RELATIONSHIPS** with every Bale Bobcat and our Bobcat family/community members,
- Demonstrating **RELEVANCE** in our instructional practices,
- Engaging in **RIGOROUS** lessons that are engaging and fun, and
- We **REFLECT** on our practices to increase effectiveness.

PBIS ROAR Acronym: Respectful, On-task, Ambitious, Responsible

"Bobcats" "Believing our Boys and Girls can achieve Tremendous Success"

Bale Elementary is a Little Rock School District (LRSD) school serving K through 5th grade students. A large majority of the students enrolled are from low income families, with 89.85% qualifying for free and reduced lunch. The October 1, 2020 student enrollment is 369 students. The student body is 74.6% African American, 17.0% Hispanic, 5.6% Caucasian, and 2.8% other ethnicities. According to the 2019 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Report, Bale Elementary received a 59.33 (public school grade D) on the most recent ESSA School Index Report. One in five (20.2%) of students are classified as Special Education (SPED). Almost 20% (17.1%) of students are classified as English Language Learners (ELL).

Bale Elementary Staff will communicate with parents in the following ways to increase parent and family engagement and to support classroom instruction:

- Distribution of a monthly newsletter developed by the principal and staff. The newsletters will include a calendar of school and district as well as parenting strategies and homework tips, the newsletter will contain the school's website address with directions on how parents can access the Parent Engagement Plan.
- Parents will also be given the directions on finding the Plan on Bale's social media sites; Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Whenever practicable, written translations of printed information will be provided to parents with limited English proficiency in a language they understand. However, if written translations are not practicable, it is practicable to provide information to limited English proficient parents orally in a language that they understand.
- Distribution of pin numbers so parents can access eSchool to monitor their child's academic progress
- Provide academic/behavioral updates via report cards, interim reports, eSchool, conferences, weekly folders, emails, conference calls, newsletters, etc. Parents will also have the opportunity to review and ask questions about the District parent and Family Engagement Plan during parent teacher conferences.
- Provide information packets, homework tips, volunteer opportunities, Bale's Parental and Family Involvement Plan, and the school/district handbook
- Provide opportunities for parenting classes, access to the computer (to view the school website, teacher web pages, eSchool, etc.)
- Provide mentors and tutors to work with targeted students to address academic deficits
- Provide interpreters when needed during parent/teacher conferences for parents who do not speak English.

Bale Elementary will plan the following meetings at various times to increase parent and family engagement, build staff and parent capacity:

- Bobcat Blitz Back to School Meet & Greet (August) Roxie Browning 447-3602
- Open House (September) Roxie Browning 447-3602
- 21CCLC After School Showcases (December & April) Trinina Pouncy 447-3609
- Literacy Night (Fall) Denise Holley 447-3602
- Math Night (Fall) Denise Holley 447-3602

- Science Fair (January) Phillip Davis 447-3642
- Spelling Bee (Spring) 447-3642
- Parent Testing Seminar (March/April) Denise Holly 447-3645
- Reading Day (Monthly) Lori Noel-Green 447-3606
- Grandparent's Day (September) Julia Cartwright 447-3604
- Quarterly Awards Assemblies Julia Cartwright 447-3604
- Black History Program (February) Erica Willis 447-3620
- Parent/Teacher Conferences Bale Staff 447-3600
- Field Day (May) Coach Beard 447-3636
- Fall Carnival (October) Trinina Pouncy 447-3609
- ESOL Learning Advocacy Programming (Fall & Spring) Paula Smith 447-3600
- 5th Grade Convocation (May) Julia Wood 447-3639
- Kindergarten End of Year Celebration (May) Tanesshia Beverly 447-3600
- Volunteer Recognition Banquet (May)Lori Noel / Julia Cartwright 447-3604

Parents will be encouraged to participate in their child's education through volunteer opportunities listed below as well as solicited for additional volunteer opportunities:

- Serving as a member of the School Leadership Team, PTA, Attendance/Tardy Committee
- Assisting in the Media Center – Book Fair helper
- Classroom Parent
- Assist with bulletin board refresh
- Reading Day
- Field Day Volunteers
- Reading in the classroom
- Open House
- Reading with a buddy
- Registration
- Mentoring
- Special Programs
- Assisting in the classroom
- Various committees
- Tutoring
- Volunteering in the cafeteria/ playground

Parent volunteer opportunities will be provided during registration and as each new student enters. A list of volunteer opportunities will also be provided by our school counselor, parent facilitator, and PTA board member. (Julia Cartwright) 447-3604

We will provide information for parents and community members in various ways to support instructional programs such as tutoring, mentoring, school-wide spelling bee, after school program, reading day, etc. (Roxie Browning) 447-3602

Bale will provide parents with instructions on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home during Math and Literacy Night. These activities will be organized by the math facilitator, literacy facilitator, and committee members. (Roxie Browning, K-5th Bale teachers) 447-3602

Bale's staff and parents will work together to create a Home/School Learning Compact. It outlines how parents, students and staff share the responsibility for improving students' academic achievement levels. All stakeholders will have input and be required to sign the contract. Parents will have the opportunity to be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of the school-wide improvement plan.

We will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the Title I Program's parental involvement efforts by conducting a needs assessment involving staff, stakeholders and parents. The committee will make adjustments or changes when necessary. The evaluation will include numbers that indicate whether the level of parent participation in meetings and activities has improved and the impact of parental participation on student achievement. The meetings will take place at the beginning of the year (September), Midyear (January) and end of the year (May). (447-3600) Roxie Browning, 447-3602

Parent interest surveys relating to what parents feel we can do to support their child academically will be administered during registration and throughout the year for new students by our parent facilitator and school counselor. We will use the results of the surveys to plan for upcoming parent and family engagement activities. We will evaluate the impact of suggested activities at the end of the school year and give parents the results. Parents will be provided with a parent handbook that includes information on resolving parental concerns through due process, as well as policies and procedures of Bale Elementary. Roxie Browning, Trinina Pouncy} 447-3609

The Annual Title I Meeting is held each year in September during Open House, facilitated by the principal. The agenda, sign-in sheet, and minutes for the meeting are on file in the school's office. During the meeting parents are given information regarding attendance, tardies, class and homework policies, discipline and general expectations needed for their child to have a productive school year. Information regarding how and when to contact their child's teacher is also shared.

PARENT AND FAMILY MEMBER INPUT- Parents and family members of children receiving services under this part shall be involved in the decisions regarding how funds reserved under subparagraph (A) are allotted for parental involvement activities. Parents will be given opportunities through PTA and other meetings to voice their opinions, concerns and ideas regarding how Title 1 funds are spent. There will be general information shared with parents regarding the regulations of how the funds are distributed and what they can and cannot be used for during the school year.

Based on the list parents will be asked for their input to help decide which program, activities, resources and materials would best benefit the students at Bale.

Bale will work with our feeder middle school to prepare parents and students for the middle school transition. Parents will be invited to attend our middle school field trip. Parents will be encouraged to assist their child with middle school shadowing experiences that can be arranged between parent, student and the middle school counselor. This field trip will be coordinated by our school counselor February – March (Julia Cartwright 447-3604).

We have the following resources available for our parents: Our parent center is located outside the media center. The hours of operation are during the regular school day. The parent center has a large selection of pamphlets, books, and brochures with resource information for a parent to support their child's success in school and be a responsible parent. All materials are available for parents to take a copy or check out for personal use. Our parent facilitator oversees the Parent Center. For additional information, contact Julia Cartwright at 447-3604

The library has a section of books and games available for check out. Computers are available for parents to check eSchool and educational websites. Parents may visit our library immediately after school to access ClassLink, Schoology, eSchool - Home Access Center (HAC), and other Educational websites. (Lori Noel- Green)

Parents are provided a Bale parent handbook that includes the process for resolving parental concerns through due process, homework policy, dress code, Home School Learning Compact, District Mission, School Mission, and Parent Contract Julia Cartwright, our parent facilitator, is available on campus daily. She may be contacted via email at Julia.cartwright@lrsd.org telephone at 501-447-3604.

Bale Elementary is a member of Johns Hopkins University National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS). The NNPS School, Family and Community Partnership family model is designed to enhance parent participation and involvement in the school and community. The family model is research based and references engagement, activities, and resources for the six types of involvement: Parenting, Communicating, Volunteering, Student Learning, Decision- Making and Collaborating with the Community. To support the six types of involvement, Bale participates on the LRSD NNPS Central-East School Cluster Team. Contact Person: Julia Cartwright (501) 447-3604.

Six Types of Involvement: Keys to Successful Partnerships

TYPE 1 - Parenting

Assist families with parenting skills and setting home conditions to support children as students. Also, assist schools to better understand families.

TYPE 2 - Communicating

Conduct effective communications from school-to-home and from home-to-school about school programs and student progress.

TYPE 3 - Volunteering

Organize volunteers and audiences to support the school and students. Provide volunteer opportunities in various locations and at various times.

TYPE 4 - Learning at Home

Involve families with their children on homework and other curriculum-related activities and decisions.

TYPE 5 - Decision Making

Include families as participants in school decisions, and develop parent leaders and representatives.

TYPE 6 - Collaborating with the Community

Coordinate resources and services from the community for families, students, and the school, and provide services to the community

Epstein, et. al. 2002. *School, Family, and Community Partnerships: Your Handbook for Action, Second Edition*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press, Inc.