Supporting the Family-School Partnership

BCPS provides coordination, support, and technical assistance in building effective family-school partnerships:

- Offering professional learning opportunities throughout the school year to school staff on topics such as: Effective Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences; Communicating with Families—Challenges and Solutions; Establishing a Welcoming Environment; and Understanding Demographics.

- Staff from the Office of Title I support Title I schools through the year with the implementation of the Title I School Level Plan and Home-School Compact.

For families and community members by:

- Offering early literacy opportunities to families through the ABC program and coordinating outreach to families through the Judy Center, public libraries, and other federal, state, and local programs. [https://dci.bcps.org/department/academic_services/early_childhood/aliza_brandwine_center/a_b_c]

- Building the capacity of families by offering workshops through the BCPS Parent University.

- Partnering with Baltimore County Public Libraries and other community organizations.

- Coordinating with the Office of Equity and Cultural Proficiency to address the varied needs of school communities.

National, State, and Local Parent Involvement Initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>Website/Link</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maryland State Department of Education</td>
<td><a href="https://news.maryland.gov/msde/">https://news.maryland.gov/msde/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>United States Department of Education</td>
<td><a href="http://www2.ed.gov/parents/academic/involve/schoolbox/index.html">Empowering Parents School Box</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore County Public Schools</td>
<td><a href="https://cos.bcps.org/departments/communications/family_and_community_engagement">Office of Family and Community Engagement</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Feedback Needed

We value your input! Please complete the evaluation and share any feedback you have on the BCPS and Title I District Level Family Engagement Plan.

[https://forms.office.com/r/y6McW2SqqV](https://forms.office.com/r/y6McW2SqqV)
Family Communication
BCPS communicates information to parents, caregivers, families and community stakeholders about Title I requirements, state and local assessments, and how to monitor a child’s progress:

- Through newsletters, the School Messenger phone messaging system, the systemwide calendar, report cards, workshops, the Parentmobile, and the Office of Family and Community Engagement newsletter and website. [Parent University - Division of Chief of Staff (bcps.org)]
- The use of the Family Engagement Compact Plan.
- In languages that families can understand through translation and interpreting services provided by the Office of World Languages’ Bilingual Resource Team.

Volunteering
Are you interested in volunteering? BCPS provides opportunities for families to participate in their child’s education by:

- Joining organized stakeholder groups such as Parent/Teacher Associations or Organizations (PTA or PTO), area advisory councils, and the Retired Senior Volunteer (RSVP) program.

For more information, please call your child’s school!

Family Partnerships
BCPS values family input in decision-making and their advocacy for their child’s education through:

- Annual school-level meetings held with family representatives to review, provide feedback, evaluate, and make revisions regarding district and school-level parent involvement plans and funds.
- Providing feedback on how school staff can better reach out to and communicate with families as equal partners.
- Regularly scheduled Board of Education meetings in which citizens are encouraged to offer their input and suggestions. Leadership - Baltimore County Public Schools (bcps.org)

Family Resource Centers
BCPS has two regional Resource Centers for Title I Schools and families which provide free assistance to parents in locating and identifying educational resources within the district and their community.

BCPS expectations for meaningful parent and family involvement:
Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) promotes meaningful partnerships among schools, families, caregivers, and community members. Effective partnerships foster and enhance student achievement through family, business and community engagement.

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