

Bend-La Pine Schools commits to the pursuit of equity: a commitment that that students receive what they need to succeed. The district must provide high levels of family engagement to achieve equitable outcomes for all students.

The district has identified the following foundational beliefs about family engagement:

1. We welcome all cultures and background experiences of our families and members of our community, recognizing them as critical partners in supporting students' educational success.
2. Effective communication includes both speaking and listening, and it is the district's responsibility to promote open, honest, and ongoing communication between school and district staff and the students and families we serve.
3. Families and community members are crucial to our schools' success, and we need to promote their active engagement while also providing safe environments for students and staff.

In order to achieve our beliefs, the district shall:

1. Create frameworks and establish programs that promote authentic, ongoing collaboration between the district and schools and students and families.
2. Regularly use tools such as surveys, focus groups, and interviews to identify families' views of the district's strengths and areas for growth.
3. Provide communication with multi-lingual families whose primary language is not English with translation / interpretation that is timely and accurate.
4. Provide alternatives for families without internet connections face to reduce barriers in receiving communication from teachers and schools.
5. Support frequent age-appropriate, culturally relevant, family engagement activities focused on students' academic success and family support strategies.
6. Create welcoming environments in our schools for all families, including, but not limited to, training of front office staff, signage in appropriate languages (as practicable), and access to support, if needed.
7. Provide support and training for all families so that they know how to effectively address concerns about their students' learning and / or experiences in schools and classrooms.

District Reference(s):

[JBB-AP: Educational Equity](#)

[Administrative Expectation: Gender Diverse Student & Staff Support](#)

Reviewed: 6/2022

Approved: 7/19/2022