

Parent Engagement Policy
(Requires Annual Notice)
Updated March 2021

The Administrator offers monthly Coffees with the Principal open to families to drop in.

The Family Newsletter is emailed home throughout the school year from the Principal and the Guidance Newsletter is sent out every other week in conjunction with grade updates.

All grades and attendance data can be accessed 24 / 7 through an online system (JumpRope) and all families are given internet access at the main office if needed. JumpRope grading system is updated every other week throughout the school year.

The SAEL Board has regular public meetings every month and the LCAP is brought to the board and public several times a year for comment or input on financial decisions and school goals.

The WASC accreditation process brings in a parent group to engage in the school review activities. We are committed to working with our families and appreciate their engagement and support.

The annual SAEL Survey also goes out to all families and students. This survey was created as our school launched 5 years ago and continues to ask similar questions over time with additional questions added to focus on specific changes to the school (ie a new site, newly adopted math curriculum). We continue to use this survey as all stakeholders are able to easily engage for free and it can be taken via computer, tablet, or phone. The survey is sent home via email, posted about on our Facebook page, and computers are available at our Spring Student Led Conferences so parents can take the survey if they don't have internet or computer at home.

In addition, the annual CHKS (California Healthy Kids) Survey is distributed to all students and families. Data is then analyzed in representative leadership groups that involve teachers, staff, students, and families.

The LEA parent and family engagement policies and practices were developed jointly with, agreed on with, and distributed to, parents and family members of participating children since the development of the SAEL Charter which outlined policies and practices and had a working group of representative school and community members on it, including family members of potential and then attending students.

The Handbook was also developed with input from the leadership bodies of the school, including both the Board of Directors and the Site Council, which both have parent representatives on them and have provided input into annual handbooks (with the Board voting on any approval of Handbooks and the policies around parent engagement in them. The

Charter and Handbook are publicly approved and therefore available for public comment and on our website. The Handbook is distributed every year via email, paper copy, and upon request at any time.

The LEA provides assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children through bi-monthly Guidance Newsletters sent out to families via email and available on the Guidance Counselor's Website, through biannual Student Led Conferences where students and families discuss goals, progress toward graduation, what it takes to meet challenging State academic standards at SAEL, and what it looks like to work together with the child to continue to monitor progress on the online

Student Led Conferences are also supported by the student's Crew Advisor who can answer any questions the family may have about family engagement in supporting student progress toward achieving standards and accumulating credits toward graduation and acts as a person who works with the family on monitoring progress. The Crew Advisor has a closer to 15:1 ratio while the Guidance Counselor also meets one to one with families if they need support, are recommended to check in by the Crew Advisor, reach out for any reason, or would like clarification on things like college and career readiness or standardized testing.

The LEA educates teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school through ongoing professional development.

Professional development happens school-wide every Friday and a daily morning meeting has all staff circled up where there are research articles, parent engagement handbooks, parent presentations from members of the Parent Teacher Crew (PTC), and other anecdotal best practices shared among staff on how to both value and support parent and family relationships.

All information is distributed electronically, available in paper format, often posted on websites, and available for translation.