

Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches 2023-2024 Parent Family Engagement Plan Summary

We value our families and recognize the important role they play as students' first and best teachers, and we have a mission statement that is dedicated to our work with families. Fundamental to our mission is a commitment to the active involvement of a competent and caring staff, informed and engaged families, and a safe and orderly learning environment.

Parent and Family Engagement Mission Statement: Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches is a progressive educational community that is dedicated to providing a safe, respectful, personalized learning environment for students with autism spectrum disorder. We provide an educational and working environment, where both students and staff are unimpeded by bias or discrimination. Individuals of all backgrounds and experiences are embraced, affirmed, and inspired. Each and every one will succeed and flourish. Our mission is to foster the development of the necessary learning, social, and self-care skills in students on the autism spectrum using evidence-based practices and a family-centered approach. We value our families and recognize the important role they play as students' first and best teachers, and we have a mission statement that is dedicated to our work with families. Fundamental to our mission is a commitment to the active involvement of a competent and caring staff, informed and engaged families, and a safe and orderly learning environment.

Shared Decision Making:

Families will be invited to many meetings throughout the year to receive academic information, reports, and provide input on ways the school, families, and students can share responsibilities for student success. We hope you will join us for the PTO/SAC meetings, parent conferences, Title 1 meetings, and parent trainings.

Communication:

Based on your input, we will provide flexible meeting dates and times to accommodate work schedules. We will also communicate in an on-going and timely manner using a variety of methods including our school website, social media, emails, our new Student Information System (SchoolCues), phone calls from teachers, and school administration; by flyers sent home with your student; through notes in your student's communication folder, school newsletter/calendar, and academic reports. If you find that communication does not seem to be getting home, please let us know.

Annual Meeting:

Parents are invited to this meeting on October 5, 2023 at 6:00pm to learn more about the requirements of Title 1 and our school-wide Title 1 Program. At this meeting, there will be opportunities to review Title 1 documents and review the Parent School Compact, Parent Family Engagement Plan, Parent's Right to Know, and other special programs.

Staff Trainings:

1. Six Slices of Family Engagement - Part 1– August
2. Six Slices of Family Engagement Part 2 - Project Appleseed - November

Parent and Family Engagement Trainings:

1. How Do I Become an Active Member in My School Community?– August
2. Ways to Address Challenging Behaviors at Home– November
3. Literacy Night – How to Increase Literacy Activities in the Home Setting – February

Accessibility for all Families:

Connections Education Center will accommodate all families by providing the following:

- Notification of times for meetings
- Language Facilitators will be available at group functions and events to translate in Spanish and Creole
- Parent/Student/Teacher conferences for parents at a time convenient to them
- Alternative meeting times and locations
- Offering meetings virtually or by phone
- Child care provided for evening trainings

Volunteers:

CECPB encourages parents to volunteer at our school. Please contact Charleen or Aura if you are interested.

Other Parent Involvement Activities:

- Parent Trainings/Observations – Parents given information about trainings in house and through other agencies (CARD, JFS, etc.) Parent observations of their child in the classroom setting are encouraged
- Literacy Night – Classroom teachers review reading program and ways to increase at home literacy activities
- Curriculum Night – Teachers review curriculum with parents and go over what a day at school looks like for their child.
- Family Fun Day/Light it Up Blue – Family day for the whole family with activities for children
- Book Fair

Our Plan:

This plan was written in partnership with families, staff, and members of our school community. We welcome your suggestions to improve our family engagement practices. If you have comments, you may write them on the attached signature/comment page. You are also encouraged to attend our annual Stakeholder Input Meeting in the spring and complete training evaluations and Parent and Family Engagement Survey sent home each year.