



# Family Engagement Defined



Family involvement is more than a school program. It is a way of thinking and doing that recognizes the central role that families play in their children’s education and the power of working together. The education of students is the shared responsibility of teachers, school staff, families, and community, as well as students themselves. The research is clear that family involvement is a key factor in a student’s improved academic performance. High-performing schools intentionally link family involvement strategies to academic goals. They make family involvement part of their school improvement plan and develop collaborative relationships among teachers, parents and the community.

*See Opportunities to Get Involved on the Reverse Side*

# Activities to Build Partnerships

## Importance of Communication Between Teachers and Parents

**Parent-Teacher Conferences:**  
*Add dates here as they are scheduled.*

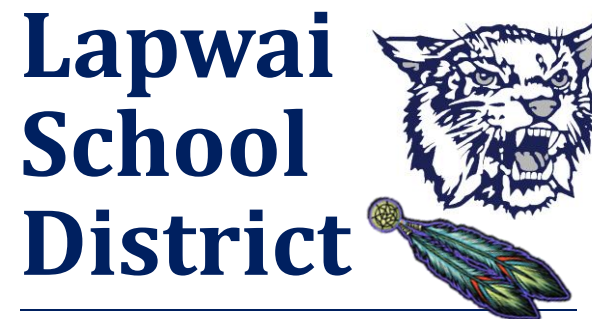
**District Leadership Team:**  
One Meeting Per Semester  
Parent Involvement Encouraged  
Contact: David Aiken  
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**Elementary Family Engagement Team:**  
For More Information:  
Teri Wagner, Principal  
(208) 843-2960  
twagner@lapwai.org

**Middle-High Family Engagement Team:**  
For More Information:  
D’Lisa Penney-Pinkham, Principal  
(208) 843-2241  
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**Title 1-A and Impact Aid Meeting and Questionnaire: Celebrating Families in Our Community - Annually in October**

*Together, we ensure all students will reach their full potential.*



2021-2022 Family Engagement Plan



*Together, we ensure all students will reach their full potential.*



## Family Engagement Mission Statement:

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It is the mission of the Lapwai School District to foster relevant family engagement opportunities which accommodate family circumstances, provide choices, validate the family's culture and values, and explicitly emphasize the importance of family support of the student's learning.



*kíiye pecepelíhniku' wapáyat'as  
mamáy'asna hipewc'éeyu' cúukwenin'.*

*We will all work to help the children  
become knowledgeable.*

## Family Engagement Vision Statements:

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**Communicating:** Communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and meaningful

**Parenting:** Parenting skills are promoted and supported

**Student Learning:** Parents play an integral role in assisting student learning.

**Volunteering:** Parents are welcome in the school and their support and assistance are sought

**School Decision Making and Advocacy:** Parents are full partners in the decisions that affect children and families

**Collaborating with Community:** Community resources are used to strengthen schools, families, and student learning

## Family Engagement Implementation Strategies:

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Research shows that parents are most likely to become involved if they:

- Understand they *should* be involved
- Know they are *capable* of making a contribution
- Feel *invited* by the school and their children

Schools should make a demonstrated effort to:

- Go *beyond* report cards in keeping parents informed regarding how their children are doing
- *Involve* parents in learning about and participating in all aspects of students' school lives



## Family Engagement Practices:

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- Communicate repeatedly to parents that their involvement can greatly enhance their children's school performance regardless of their own level of education
- Make parents of young children aware that the earlier they become involved in their child's education, the more it benefits their learning
- Communicate to parents that students of all ages benefit from parent involvement
- Encourage parents of young children to read to them, every day
- Send home information about upcoming classroom activities, examples of students' work, and suggestions for at-home learning
- Offer families different involvement options to choose from, based on their schedule and interest
- Encourage parents to monitor homework and provide a suitable place with necessary materials for children to study at home
- Be mindful parents are busy and refrain from asking them to devote unrealistic amounts of time to school-related activities
- Keep parents informed and involved in the curriculum, instruction, and assessment loop
- Welcome parents at all times

