**District and School Family Engagement Policy 2017-2018**

Here at the Bentley Academy Charter School (BACS) family engagement plays a significant role in our school culture. Consistent and continuous family partnerships are a pillar of our school and we rely on our partnerships with families to ensure that we are preparing all of our scholars to get to and through college. In efforts to maximize our family partnerships we have partnered with 1647 an organization that coaches our Family Engagement Team on how to effectively engage families and an equitable manner.

To ensure we continue to build our schools and families capacity to support our scholars in academic achievement and personal growth while upholding all of the required laws attached to our Title1 status BACS will:

* Hold a meeting with families during our Winter Concert to inform parents of our schools participation in Title 1. During this meeting we will further explain the requirements and rights of parents involved.
* Work collaboratively with families to set up home visits that will further support the partnerships we plan to create and maintain with our scholar’s families.
* Hold individual parent teacher conferences twice a year designed to share information about scholar academic progress and performance
* Hold special events at the school connected to academic content that will support families in assisting their scholar’s on nightly homework such as Literacy and Math Night
* Provide opportunities for families to volunteer their time here at the school by way of but not limited to monthly school-wide events, field trips and special classroom readers.
* Set aside and attend Parent Teacher Association meetings
* Set aside family communication time in our teacher’s weekly schedules
* Respond to parents within 24 hours of original communication by preferred way of communicating.
* Ongoing communication with families in their preferred language.
* Invite families to attend any Student Support Team meetings in regards to their scholar and make support plans in support and partnerships with families.
* Encourage parents to visit and observe classes at the school as their schedules allow.
* Continuously look to increase family engagement by planning events around our working families schedules.

BACS will provide families with:

* Information about programs under Title 1, Part A
* Supply families with classroom syllabuses that describe what scholars will be learning throughout the year in each academic content area.
* Distribute weekly behavior progress reports by way of “BACS Paychecks”
* An annual family communication survey to assist the school with understanding where improvements need to be made in efforts to gain optimal family engagement and further strengthen our partnerships.
* A weekly family newsletter that advertises different avenues of family involvement  as well as which events are taking place that week. This newsletter is sent home in both English and Spanish
* We conduct all-calls throughout the school year to communicate with families about our school-wide events.