

Bryant Montessori School Family Involvement Policy

Bryant is a place where families find a sense of community and a unity of purpose that can only come from a place of shared beliefs and values. At Bryant Montessori School our number one priority is the children we serve and their academic success.

Mission

To develop independent life-long learners who are compassionate contributors to a global community.

Vision

Using the Montessori philosophy, we provide a peaceful, enriched educational environment in which each child is encouraged to grow to his/her fullest potential - academically, socially and emotionally.

Values

We believe that all children....

- Need and deserve to have their basic needs met.
- Learn best when they know they are loved and valued.
- Can become intrinsically motivated individuals.
- Need and deserve a safe, structured and consistent learning environment.
- Have a right to learn in an environment that honors individual learning styles and developmental levels.
- Learn best when they are able to explore and expand upon their own ideas and passions.
- Benefit from exploring diverse cultures and respecting the values of others.
- Need and deserve a community of adults (including educators, families, and community members) who will inspire, mentor, and facilitate the learning process.

In order to provide a safe and effective learning environment, we commit to a Family Involvement Policy that guarantees:

- Provision of an encouraging, welcoming environment which invites communication, and participation for all families in a manner that upholds the Montessori philosophy.
 - Students are dismissed on the playground with a handshake and personal contact with parents.
 - Teachers communicate regularly with parents informally and formally.
 - Parents are encouraged to request meetings, conversations, emails or more individualized planning when needed to support their children
 - During planning of parent involvement activities, possible barriers to participation will be addressed.
- Bryant teachers provide multiple opportunities for parents to learn about their student's progress and how they can help at home by:
 - Partnership conferences (at least twice a year)
 - Montessori training seminars for parents

- School website (bryantmontessori.org)
 - Tours and observations
- That parents receive information to assist in understanding the state academic achievement standards and assessments in a variety of ways:
 - Partnership conferences
 - Monthly calendar of events is provided in paper format as well as online
 - Homework folders (Thursday folders)
 - School and Classroom newsletters
 - School website (bryantmontessori.org)
 - Title One notebook and SCDM notebook, kept in the front office
 - Email communications
 - Phone calls
- Regularly scheduled family nights, open houses and other community building activities.
- Parent involvement activities, including volunteering in the school, are coordinated with and through the Booster Club, Trinity Presbyterian Church, and TEACH (21st Century grant)
- Regularly scheduled Booster Club meetings to help coordinate activities in classrooms and school-wide events.
- Representation on SCDM (School Centered Decision Making) committee.
- Representation on SIP Team (School Improvement Team).
- Coordination of support programs is achieved by:
 - Collaboration with agencies and groups that provide services to our students, including TEACH, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Hilltop Health Ministries, Barb Fritchey Family Resource Center, and Seventh Street Learning Center.
 - Title One preschool students are integrated into the school through multi-age classes with kindergartners and tuition preschool students.
- Title I, Part A requirements are explained to parents at the open house, held annually. Pertinent information such as the school policy, parent compact, etc., are embedded in the student handbook which is distributed the first Thursday of the school year.