



# TENNESSEE MIDDLE SCHOOL

IN ALL THINGS EXCELLENCE

BRISTOL TENNESSEE  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Tennessee Middle School Title 1 Family Engagement Plan 2023-2024

### Our District Mission

The mission of Bristol Tennessee City Schools is to ensure students achieve college and career readiness through academic excellence.

### Purpose

The Tennessee Middle Schools Family Engagement Plan was developed to increase and improve the level of family involvement in our students' education.

### Plan

**Component 1:** Tennessee Middle School is committed to involving families in policy development.

(Note: This component supports TPIS Standard 5: Sharing Power)

### **Indicators:**

1. Parents will have a chance to discuss and provide input through our PTA and district board meetings.
  - For more information about our PTA or to get involved, please contact our PTA president at [smslagle6@gmail.com](mailto:smslagle6@gmail.com)  
Further contact and involvement information will be updated at <https://tms.btcs.org/parents/pta> during the 2023-2024 year.
  - Regular meetings of the Board of Education are held on the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. (unless otherwise noted) in Room 100 of the Administration Building, 615 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. All meeting notices are available via Bristol Tennessee City Schools website. All meetings are open to the public.
2. Parents will be represented on the Leadership Team and will be involved in the development of the Family Engagement Plan.
3. Parents will be represented on the school's improvement plan.
4. Tennessee Middle School will maintain a School-Parent(Family) Compact (referenced as School-Family Compact or Compact for remainder of document)

as part of its Family Engagement Plan. This compact will describe how parents, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

5. Parents and educators will have the opportunity to provide input through surveys and through postings on the system's web page.
  - Tennessee Middle School's website is updated frequently and includes important school information for parents.
  - Annual climate and satisfaction surveys will be issued to students, parents, and teachers before the end of the year. Additional surveys may be conducted throughout the year to garner community input. All survey results are reviewed and considered for future planning.

**Component 2:** The Family Engagement Plan includes technical assistance and planning support for effective family engagement.

(Note: This component supports TPIS Standard 2: Communicating Effectively)

**Indicators:**

1. Parents will be notified of the school's Family Engagement Plan in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand.
2. Tennessee Middle School will convene an annual parent meeting to inform parents about the school's family engagement programs and rights of parents to be involved.
3. Parents are assisted in better understanding state standards (content and achievement), local assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with teachers to improve student achievement. Tennessee Middle School will maintain data forms to help communicate student performance and achievement on STAR and benchmark tests. Report cards and other key sources of information regarding academic assessment are available to parents via PowerSchool and Canvas. Additional information regarding standards and curriculum can be found by clicking on the link to the TN State Department of Education website found on our school district's website  
[https://www.btc.org/departments/curriculum\\_instruction/curriculum\\_maps](https://www.btc.org/departments/curriculum_instruction/curriculum_maps)
4. Teachers will regularly communicate with parents via Canvas, PowerSchool, email, and phone calls home. School messages are communicated through phone calls home and social media sites on a regular basis and contain information regarding school report cards, test results, new programming options, meetings and suggestions for parents to become involved in their child's education.

The following social media platforms will also be used to communicate information with families and the community:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TennesseeMiddleSchool/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/bristolncityschools/>
  - Twitter: @BTCS\_TMS and @BTCS\_District
5. Parents will be provided with opportunities for regular meetings relating to the education of their children and as appropriate participation in decisions relating to the education of their children. These include IEP (Individualized Education Program) meetings and those scheduled upon request in addition to parent/teacher conference days. These meeting times can be flexible to accommodate parent/guardian schedules and may be done digitally via Microsoft Teams.
  6. Title I Family Engagement activities will be coordinated with other programs such as ESL (English as a Second Language) or Communities in Schools.
  7. Information related to school and parent programs, to the extent practicable, will be sent in a language parents can understand. The school will use Volantia translating service when communicating by phone.

**Component 3:** The Family Engagement Plan supports clearly articulated goals for extent and type of family engagement.

(Note: This component supports TPIS standard 1: Welcoming all families into the school community.)

**Indicators:**

1. A variety of planned, goal - oriented programs will be organized and implemented to engage all parents in their children's education in one or more of the following categories:
  - Parenting (Strategies to promote effective parenting practices at home)
    - Parents will be encouraged to promote good school attendance.
    - Parents will be regularly updated on class assignments and student achievement via Canvas and PowerSchool. Achievement on benchmarks and standardized testing will be regularly communicated via data sheets.
    - The district program *The Connection* will help parents meet the needs of students both inside and outside of the classroom.
  - Communicating (strategies to promote positive school – home communication)
    - Important announcements and other school information are regularly updated on the school website and included in phone calls home.

- Appointments with one of our staff members can be scheduled by parents or guardians by calling our main office.
- Tennessee Middle School will offer a flexible number of meetings throughout the year (mornings as well as evenings). These include our Open House and data conferencing meetings.
- Teachers will communicate with students and guardians through email and Canvas updates.
- Social media sites also display important information and updates.
- Announcements and other forms of communication will be provided in a timely manner.
- Learning at home (learning activities to involve parents with students at home)
- Teachers communicate regularly through Canvas and email to keep parents/guardians informed of classroom activities and events.
- Decision making (Opportunities to engage in decision making, governance, and advocacy roles at both the school and system level)
  - Tennessee Middle School has an active PTA that is involved in many aspects of school activities.
  - The community is also encouraged to attend our district board meetings.
  - Parents will be provided with opportunities for regular meetings relating to the education of their children and as appropriate participation in decisions relating to the education of their children.
  - School-Family Compact provided to families is an agreement that families, students, and teachers develop together. It explains how families and teachers will work together to make sure all students reach grade level standards.
  - Parent/Family Advisory Council meets separately from our PTA with the purpose of strengthening our family engagement and outreach while supporting student academic achievement.
- Collaborating with the community (Activities/events that foster school-community partnerships)
  - Communities in Schools of Appalachian Highlands has a Student Support Coordinator at Tennessee Middle School. Our Student Support Coordinator meets with individual students to help students

achieve goals, coordinates school events in partnership with Title I, and provides incentives for individuals at TMS.

- Our partnership with Frontier Health includes providing a Frontier Health counselor within our school building for our students.
- Vive 18 is a nationwide substance use prevention club providing positive afterschool activities for students of TMS.
- *The Connection* is Bristol Tennessee City Schools' department of family and community engagement, department of attendance, transportation, and safety, and addresses needs established by the school system, parents, and community stakeholders with the goal of having a positive impact on students. *The Connection's* goal is to continually improve community involvement and confidence in our school district. More information can be found on our district website.

[https://www.btcs.org/resources/the\\_connection](https://www.btcs.org/resources/the_connection)

**Component 4:** The Family Engagement Plan provides for an evaluation process to promote continuous improvement of the engagement of all families.

**Indicators:**

1. Survey results are gathered and analyzed each year, and the data is used to make appropriate adjustments to our school. Annual surveys will be conducted at the school level to design more effective strategies and to revise the Family Engagement Plan if necessary.
2. Tennessee Middle School will consistently set and evaluate measurable goals for increasing the level and quality of family involvement.

**Component 5:** The Family Engagement Plan requires family engagement at all school sites.

**Indicators:**

1. Tennessee Middle School establishes an annual Family Engagement Plan that was developed jointly with parents, agreed on with parents, distributed to parents, and submitted as an annual plan to the district office. If the school improvement plan is not satisfactory to families, the school will submit any family comments on the plan when it is made available to the district.
2. Tennessee Middle School will work with the district to regularly communicate district announcements.
3. Tennessee Middle School will conduct an annual parent survey and submit those results to the district office.

4. Tennessee Middle School will regularly set and evaluate goals for family engagement.

**Component 6: The Family Engagement Plan includes procedures for parents to access and understand course of study or curricular materials as well as Federal, State, and local standards.**

(Note: This component supports TPIS Standard 3: Supporting Student Success)

**Indicators:**

1. Tennessee Middle School's website will contain a link to the Tennessee State Department of Education where the state curriculum for each grade level and subject area may be accessed.  
tms.btcs.org
2. Assessments and grades on report cards will be aligned with state standards and regularly communicated to parents.
3. TMS data sheets will be updated regularly to communicate student progress and achievement.
4. Parents have access to course materials through Canvas.
5. The Tennessee Middle School Improvement Plan Goals will be communicated via the school website throughout the year.
6. The School-Family Compact will be sent out in the fall and spring of each year.

**Component 7: The Family Engagement Plan encourages the support of district involvement in positive parenting skills.**

(Note: This component supports TPIS Standard 4: Speaking up for every child.)

**Indicators:**

1. Materials and training are provided to help parents work with their children to improve their achievement, such as using technology to foster parental involvement or family engagement.
2. After school tutoring and homework programs will be provided to improve student achievement. Information about our LEAPs program will be sent home at the beginning of the year in a timely manner. For more information on our LEAPS program, please visit the TMS website.  
[https://tms.btcs.org/students/clubs\\_and\\_organizations/leap](https://tms.btcs.org/students/clubs_and_organizations/leap)
3. Tennessee Middle School will work with parents to encourage better school attendance.
4. Tennessee Middle School uses reward programs such as our Star student initiative to acknowledge good character and good student behavior.

5. Our district program *The Connection* will have specific resources and community connections for families.

**Component 8:** The Family Engagement Plan incorporates family involvement in decision making and governance.

(Note: This component supports TPIS Standard 5: sharing power.)

**Indicators:**

1. School staff members are friendly toward, respectful of, and helpful to all families.
  - Our educators, office staff, and principal make every effort to communicate fully with all parents/guardians.
2. Tennessee Middle School has several ways of listening to parents and engaging them in two-way communication (for example: PTA, district board meetings, Parent Advisory Council, social media sites, and parent surveys)
3. Parent representatives will sit on SIP Committees.

**Component 9:** The Family Engagement Plan supports professional development to build the capacity for family engagement.

(Note: This component supports TPIS standard 3: Supporting Student Success.)

**Indicators:**

1. Professional development around family engagement will be provided for all staff members. Staff will be educated in the value and contributions of parents, in working with parents, and in building ties between the school and our community.
2. Families will have opportunities to be included in family engagement training.
3. Tennessee Middle School will be supported by the district office in planning/implementing family engagement activities to improve student achievement.

**Component 10:** The Family Engagement Plan specifies budget and funding for family engagement.

**Indicators:**

1. The school has adequate staff and resources to implement the family involvement standards.
2. Tennessee Middle School's Title I and site-based budgets will reflect a commitment to the effective development, implementation, and evaluation of family engagement programs.
  - Response to Intervention and Instruction Specialists

- Behavior Interventionist
- Family involvement and materials
- School level newsletters and other publications
- Staff development

**Component 11:** The family Engagement Plan encourages families and school staff to work together with community members to connect students, families, and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation.

**Indicators:**

1. Partnerships between the school and community organizations will be encouraged including LEAPs, Boys and Girls Club, YWCA, and the Connection.
2. The Tennessee Middle School Family Engagement Plan is made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.