

Hugh B. Bain Middle School
Parent Involvement Policy
2008-2009

Purpose:

Hugh B. Bain Middle School believes in and supports the importance of involving parents in the education of their children. Parents are important partners in education at Bain Middle School.

Parent Involvement Programming at Bain Middle School:

Hugh B. Bain Middle School is a school wide Title I project. Bain Middle School has a diverse student body. All parents are invited to attend the annual informative Title I meeting. Parents receive the Title I Compact and are informed about our program which includes direct instruction in literacy from Title I teachers. Also through Title I funding, parents and their child/children have the opportunity to receive technology instruction in the evenings. The classes range from Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, Publisher, and Front Page. Families may also participate in Internet workshops where they receive direct instruction and guided practice in Internet skills. Specific focus is on accessing the Cranston Public Schools Web Site, the Bain Home Page, teacher web addresses, school notes, emailing, and basic computer skills. Regular and frequent communication between Bain and its families is cultivated through these trainings along with more traditional communication models such as report cards, interim reports and school –parent meetings.

The 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant is known as the Bain Plus 2 program of Bain Middle School. The objective is to improve learning across the content areas for all students who wish to participate. Specific school academic support and enrichment activities include extended school day, weekends, vacation weeks, and summer programming for grades 7 – 8. A quarterly newsletter is sent to families and the community. This program also seeks to improve communication by involving parents and families with the Bain community as well as improve linkages to community agencies and services within the city and state.

This year Bain is involved with Title I Family Center and COZ (Child Opportunity Zone). Their mission is to link the home with the school and the community with the overarching goal of promoting school success for students. A variety of programs and services are designed to help families from basic needs remediation to parent leadership training. COZ has a four-tiered strategy for promoting parent involvement. Tier I works to ameliorate conditions that prohibit or prevent parent involvement. Programs at this level include RItecare application assistance and the annual toy, coat and food drives. Tier II activities are designed to help parents feel welcome and comfortable in their child's school. Activities include *Breakfast with the Principal*, the Can We Talk?

Program, parent-child programs and outreach. Parent participation is the goal of Tier III. The Family Center offers activities and parent volunteer opportunities to foster parent involvement. Tier IV is designed to develop parent leadership skills by offering an *Institute for Parent Leaders* with Johnson and Wales Center for Leadership Studies.

Additional parent involvement opportunities at Bain include the annual informative PLP (personal literacy plans) meeting for parents of students receiving supplemental reading instruction. Parents are welcome to attend and participate in monthly faculty meetings. Open house, the annual spaghetti supper, the annual Memorial Day program and honors night are yet other opportunities for parent involvement.

Parents of Bain students are included on Bain's School Improvement Team. They are valuable stakeholders who work along with administration, faculty members and staff in helping all students achieve high standards.

The PTB (parents & teachers of Bain) provides another opportunity for parents to work collaboratively with teachers in shared goals and initiatives for our students and the Bain community.

Bain reaches out into the community through our Alumni Association, which is headed by a Bain graduate. Numerous generations of Bainites plan and participate in special events throughout the year. In past years Bain has held a reunion as well as a 75th Anniversary Celebration. Additionally, the Alumni Association has put together a "Speaker's Bureau" of Bain alumni. Other events have included the Fall Festival, the annual Bain talent show, the Oscars, the Author in Residence program, and the annual Memorial Day program. Through Bain's Alumni Association, an automated external defibrillator was donated to be used in a medical emergency.

Professional Development:

Bain Middle School supports and fosters professional development opportunities for faculty, staff and administration that strengthen skills that better engage parents. Bain recognizes the importance of a school climate that is conducive to family involvement.

Implementation and Evaluation:

Bain Middle School is committed to implementing this policy as part of our vision for school success for Bain students. We recognize the role parents play as partners in education and seek to provide meaningful opportunities for parents to exercise their role and to impact decisions that affect their child.

Evaluation of this policy will be reviewed informally on a continuous basis with a formal, annual review conducted during the last quarter of the school year.