

This form may be used as a template to communicate your site’s Family Involvement Plan. Please delete items that do not apply within each category before distributing to your site’s families. For items that require evidence, please upload related documentation into your Title I Folder in the 2016-17 SIP Portal.

EQUITY IMPACT AND ASSESSMENT

The Opportunity Gap between students of color and white students in Minneapolis Public Schools is unacceptable. Our school is working to change practices and systems using the MPS Equity Framework for Transformational Change.

- We will be working with all staff and students to build capacity for this work because we believe that teaching and learning takes place in the classroom, in the halls, in the staffroom, in the school, and beyond, and involves everyone all the time.
- We will be assessing the equity impact of this Family Involvement Plan (FIP) on a yearly basis.
- We will review attendance patterns for targeted student & family groups.
- We will review and incorporate family feedback for our family engagement strategies.
- We will utilize “Guiding Questions” to ensure that our FIP strategies align with Acceleration 2020, our school’s School Improvement Plan (SIP), and the MPS Equity Framework for Transformational Change.

GUIDING QUESTIONS: Use the following questions as your school develops your FIP, as well as when your school is assessing its FIP strategies.

- Do the strategies listed in your FIP directly support your SIP goals? In what specific ways?
- Do the strategies listed in your FIP directly support Acceleration 2020 Goals? In what specific ways?
- Are the strategies in your FIP successfully engaging targeted student groups and families that have been historically underrepresented? What evidence do you have to support this? Are the parent/family take-aways from these activities helping your school to reach your specific SIP goals?
- Do strategies in your FIP combine academics with relationship-building? In what ways?
- Do strategies in your FIP build on the value of families as partners or family leadership? In what ways?

ASSESSING THE EQUITY IMPACT OF YOUR FIP STRATEGIES:

- Review attendance patterns for targeted student & family groups most impacted by the opportunity gap.
- Utilize the “Guiding Questions” above to monitor the effectiveness of your FIP.
- Summarize & document your findings right on your FIP so that you can refer back to it later.

If you would like more information about please contact **Principal or Equity Team Lead: Name & Contact Information below**

SITE CONTACT INFORMATION

Our school has staff members available for families to discuss this plan, and ask questions about family engagement opportunities.

School	Dowling Urban environmental
Principal	Dr. Lloyd Winfield
Equity Team Lead	Susan Johnson
Family Liaison	Val Ausland

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Bilingual Family Contact (if other than Family Liaison)	Abdi Mohamud,
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Creating a Warm and Welcoming Environment

<p>Transitions between schools can be challenging, and we work to help families as their children start and leave our school.</p>	<p>Best Practices: Check All That Apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> We will host an Open House to welcome new and returning families on 08/24/2017 ____ (month/day/year). <input type="checkbox"/> We share a welcome packet or school handbook with all of our families on __08/24/2017 ____ (month/day/year). <input type="checkbox"/> For schools with entering kindergarteners, we will coordinate transition with ECFE and Pre-K.
<p>We believe that all families should feel welcome in our school.</p>	<p>Best Practices: Check All That Apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> We will work with all school staff to ensure that all families are greeted warmly when they enter the building. <input type="checkbox"/> We will display culturally-relevant student art and work near the school entrance and around our building. <input type="checkbox"/> We will provide all families with volunteer opportunities. <p>We will provide family events that are all inclusive for our special education, language learners and regular education students.</p>

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Partnering with Families

<p>We will partner with families every year to rewrite our school FIP (Family Involvement Plan) and will share it with our community.</p>	<p>Best Practices: Check All That Apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> We will host a FIP meeting and invite all families on _____(month/day/year). <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> We will translate family friendly FIP for all language populations over 10% in our school. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> We will send family friendly FIP to families via backpacks. <input type="checkbox"/> We will post the FIP on our school website. <input type="checkbox"/> We will let families know FIP copies are available in the main office. <input type="checkbox"/> Other strategies (please note): <p>Ongoing Equity Impact Assessment of Strategies:</p>
<p>We will partner with families in the yearly review and improvement of our school SIP (School Improvement Plan).</p>	<p>Best Practices: Check All That Apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> We will review and improve our SIP with our site council on _____(month/year). <input type="checkbox"/> We will invite all families to participate in the SIP review process on _____(month/year). <input type="checkbox"/> We will review and improve our SIP with our PTA/PTO on _____(month/year). <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> We will translate our SIP Summary. <input type="checkbox"/> We will post our SIP on our school website. ADD LINK TO SCHOOL WEBSITE HERE : <u> www.dowling.mpls.k12.mn.us </u> <input type="checkbox"/> Other Strategies (please note):

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Ongoing Equity Impact Assessment of Strategies:

Partnering with Families (continued)

We believe that shared responsibility between our school, families, and students is critical for high student academic achievement.

Requirements:

- We will partner with families to review, and revise as needed, our school's School-Parent-Student Compact on ___09/2017___ (month/year).

ADD LINK TO WEBSITE HERE : _dowling.mpls.k12.mn.us ___ posted on Dowling's website

- We will discuss this School-Parent-Student Compact at our school Parent-Teacher Conferences as the compact relates to the individual child.

Best Practices: Check All That Apply

- We will post our compact on our school website.
- We will send our compact home by including it in our school Handbook or Newsletter on _____September 30, 2017_____(month/year).

We will look at all family input as a part of our FIP review process

Requirements:

- Include evidence of all family Input.
- Include evidence of how family input was obtained.
- Include evidence of how family input was used to revise your FIP.

We will involve families in how we spend our Title I funding.

Requirements:

- We shall provide other reasonable supports for family involvement activities as parents may request.
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- We will host an annual Title I meeting to involve families in how we spend Title I funds and to inform them of their right to be involved (can be in conjunction with other meeting). (August 24, 2017)

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Include evidence of all family input on Title I spending.

Additional Strategies (please note):
DSC (Dowling Site Council) discussion with full families

Communication and Access

We believe that ALL families should have equitable access to information from our school. We will communicate equitably with families in a way that works for families, including LEP, HHM, SpEd, and Migratory Families.

Best Practices: Check All That Apply

- We will translate our school to home communications for all family language populations over 10% in our school.
- We will communicate with families via robo-call.
- We will communicate with families via our school website.
- We will communicate with families via paper updates/newsletters.
- Other Strategies (please note):
FaceBook

Ongoing Equity Impact Assessment of Strategies: parent surveys, fliers, and teacher newsletters
PTO Meetings

We will work to ensure families have access to our school meetings.

Best Practices: Check All That Apply

- We will inform all families of meetings in advance so they can make arrangements to attend.
- We will have morning & evening meetings.
- We will provide childcare as needed.
- We will provide transportation as needed.
- We will conduct home visits/home conferences.
- Other Strategies:

Ongoing Equity Impact Assessment of Strategies: Personal Phone Calls from Bilingual Support Staff, Robo Calls

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Connecting Families to Resources	
<p>We will share information with families about the Minnesota Parent Resource Center (PACER Center).</p>	<p>Best Practices: Check All That Apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will have information on PACER Center available in our social workers office. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will post information on PACER Center on our school website. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will refer families to PACER as needed.
<p>We will encourage & support families in more fully participating in their childrens' education.</p>	<p>Best Practices: Check All That Apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Our Resource Office will provide materials for families to connect with the school community. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will connect Community Partners to our Families at events or meetings, or by referral. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <p>Ongoing Equity Impact Assessment of Strategies: the semblance of a staff-based PSWE team happened sept. 2016. We meet regularly with our District contact person, Vince Jackson to determine best practices and next steps to prepare our staff and students for a stronger equity lense at Dowling School.</p>

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Capacity Building	
<p>We will help build the capacity of families to support their children's academic achievement.</p>	<p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve student achievement. <hr/> <p>Best Practices: Check All That Apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will provide families with student academic updates <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will provide volunteer orientation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will provide literacy training for families. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will provide math games <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will provide books to students for reading <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Strategies: <p>Ongoing Equity Impact Assessment of Strategies: Not Applicable</p>
<p>We will build the capacity of our school staff to increase family engagement.</p>	<p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will provide staff PD around the value of and best practices for collaborating with families. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will invite families to assist with in the planning and implementation of these PDs. <hr/> <p>Best Practices: Check All That Apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will provide families with resource information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will connect community partners to our families at events or meetings, or by referral. <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will hold community building events <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Strategies:

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	Ongoing Equity Impact Assessment of Strategies: School Social worker, Susan Johnson has set up and meets with families in need regarding academic and/or social-emotional concerns as addressed by school personnel.
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Engaging Families in Academic Achievement

<p>We believe that engaging families in their students' academic achievement is extremely important. When families have the Information they need they are able to better advocate for their students.</p>	<p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will provide frequent reports to Families on their Students' Progress. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will provide Parents with reasonable access to staff, to their child's classroom, and to Volunteer Opportunities. <p>Best Practices: Check All That Apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will encourage all families to Volunteer by making it fun and by letting them select their volunteer activity. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Teachers will send short, informative notes to report student progress weekly or bi-weekly. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will create a calendar/plan to ensure more frequent academic achievement-focused calls to families at home. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Strategies: <p>Ongoing Equity Impact Assessment of Strategies: quarterly report cards, per-teacher basis of informal assessments and weekly updates.</p>
<p>We understand that it is valuable for families to understand grade-level content & achievement standards, how to read results for state and local tests, and how to monitor their student's progress.</p>	<p>Best Practices: Check All That Apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will host a meeting to go over grade-level content and achievement standards. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will inform families about how to read test results via email, website, robocall, or paper sent home. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will include this information in our school Handbook or Newsletter. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will make sure information is translated so it is useful to Families, either by the state, the district, or our school.
<p>We want to inform families about how we spend our school's Title I dollars, and about our school's academic enrichment programs.</p>	<p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> All Title I Families must be notified in a timely manner about all Title I Programming and enrichment opportunities. <p>Best Practices: Check All That Apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> We will create a monthly program calendar, will translate it and share it via website & backpack. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We will work to ensure that all families receive this information equitably (same time-frame).

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Engaging Families in Academic Achievement (continued)

We want families to be engaged in decisions about their students' education and we want families to feel we are responsive.

Best Practices: Check All That Apply

- We will offer flexible and meaningful opportunities for family involvement in leadership, volunteerism, questions/concerns, and feedback specifically concerning their students' education.
- We will respond to family input in a timely manner and will be transparent about how feedback is used.