William Lenoir Middle School
We Learn, Mature, Succeed

1366 Wildcat Trail Lenoir, NC 28645 Telephone 828-726-3910 Fax 828-758-1570

WEMS Mission: To provide all students the opportunity for quality education in order to become successful citizens.

Ryan Cooper, Principal

Celine Ellison, Assistant Principal

Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2023-2024

The teachers and staff at WLMS recognize that strong parental involvement is critical to student success. The three areas of parent involvement at WLMS are:

- 1. Communication
- 2. Collaboration
- 3. Parent Education

Communication:

Communication from WLMS will happen in a number of different ways for school and families. Teachers will use email, text, phone calls, and other digital means to reach parents with pertinent information.. Likewise, parents may reach a child's teacher through written notes, phone calls, email, or through digital means such as Talking Points. Parents are asked to limit phone calls to teacher planning or after school has disbanded for the day. Teachers are also available during scheduled times for parent/teacher conferences on an as-needed basis which may be initiated by either party. All parents and/or visitors must report to the office to sign in when visiting the school.

Teachers will also send information home with students by newsletters and emails on a regular basis. WLMS also maintains a school website which houses individual teacher websites and a school Facebook page to keep parents apprised of activities at the school. The school continues to utilize Blackboard Connect to send out calls, emails, and texts to parents. This can be done for the entire school or to individual grade levels or groups. Talking Points is a valuable tool used by teachers and has been endorsed by parents as a strong means of direct and timely communication. Teachers may also use the online learning platform Canvas as a means of communication. Parent Portal is available for parents to see the daily/weekly grade(s) of students in PowerSchool. If parents choose to have access, they must meet with the school data manager to obtain a password; ID will be required.

Collaboration:

WLMS encourages parents and/or teachers to schedule conferences as needed. Parents are invited to participate in the school PTA. The PTA supports academic resources and community building activities throughout the year in a variety of ways. Parents are also invited to be a part of our School Improvement Team. The dates/times/locations for those meetings are listed on our school website. The WLMS School Improvement Plan includes parent participation in the development and implementation of the School Improvement Plan and Title I plan.

There are celebrations each month to share with parents and staff about how students are demonstrating good character as taught by our Character Education programs. This time is used to share what the students are doing and learning in the school and to further their education beyond traditional academics. Parents are also invited to share and ask questions of the school staff.

Parent Education:

WLMS is committed to providing parents with information and skills to assist them in working with their students at home. Individualized strategies will be provided as well as parent nights that will inform parents in the areas of curriculum, reading, and math strategies. Parent tools such as study guides and skillbuilders, reading materials, and math materials are also available for parent use. Just as we work for student growth, it is also our intent to help parents become better equipped to help with their child(ren)'s academic development.