2021 Best Practice Expo: Session 1 FAQ

Q1. Are you doing virtual home visits during pandemic?

A1. We conduct virtual face to face parent trainings. Staff go out during the day to make contact with parents not only on the phone but as home.

Q2. What is the name of the software?

A2. PowerSchool customized

Q3. Did the district establish the home visit tracking within ESP?

A3. Yes, PowerSchool customized

Q4. During your 2-hour family meeting what courses are taught?

A4. Meetings are taught based on parent surveys and pertinent new info. Such as mask

mandates, vaccines available etc.

Q5. What is discussed on you 3 PAC meetings?

A5. PAC invitation samples are in handouts

Q6. I would love to start a dist. PAC. Who do I get ahold of to get more info? I have so many?

A6. Our district had ESP customize and develop the tracking. It is important to have data

to evaluate the use of funds to determine if the staff is effective in establishing and

informing parents with student academic progress of their child.

Q7. Is the round table a luncheon?

A7. The Supt. Parent Round Table is conducted at 9:00-11:00 am, breakfast or continental breakfast is served. This committee meets at the end of every six weeks.

Q8. Is there a checklist to follow when starting a PAC?

A8. Begin by having each campus select a parent representative or 2.

To best serve and ensure that your sub-pops are represented, your representatives should have a child in the variety of programs your district serves; EL, SPED, Migrant, GT, etc.

Q9. For the round table, do the same parents meet each 6 weeks or are there different

parents for each meeting?

A9. Parent representatives serve the entire year and may or may not continue the following year. Parents must have children in the district and have children for the campus they represent.

Q10. Can you explain again how you use bar codes?

A10. Through the student information system (eSchoolPlus) it has been customized by PowerSchool to auto generate letters to be sent home. This include absence letters, etc. All correspondence is automated to include student's address, etc that is already included as the student contact information in the system.

Q11. Can you share your needs assessment document?

A11. I will attach so you can find it where the handouts will be located.

Q12. Are you doing the community fair during Covid?

A12. Our 2021 Know Your Community Fair will be hosted in person, but we ensured to include on the invite safety protocols will be followed; face masks, social distance as best as possible and have sanitizer available.

Q13. Do families pay all for any of the CTE Programs?

A13. No, the collaboration between our Adult Ed. Department and CTE dept offer parents these courses tuition free! They do require that parents take ESL or GED courses and the certification courses are a combo.

Q14. Is there a special program or curriculum you follow for any basic computer class for

parents that you provide?

A14. Our ISET – Innovation, Strategy, Educational Technology group provides in person, virtual trainings for parents; LMS's, campus IT's or parent liaisons provide basic computer skills and any free tutoring provided online such as those found in ESC 16's website under the Statewide Initiative button.

Q15. How often do you host the Sat. family academy?

A15. The Saturday Family Academies will be hosted once a month. This initiative begins this year.

Q16. What is the difference between parent trainer and a parent liaison?

A16. The job description, parent invitations and other docs are part of the handouts and are divided in folders. **Parent Trainers** – district level, part of the PFE department staff and **Parent Liaisons** are campus staff. Both are full time BISD employees.

Q17. What name is the website about the program used for the visit?

A17. POWERSCHOOL is the company and eSchoolPlus is our Student information System