

GBS Elementary School Improvement Goal 25-26



Goal:

By May 2026, our school will improve parent partnership and connection among K–5 remote learners by at least 10% as measured by parent surveys and anecdotal evidence, through enhanced communication, shared community-building opportunities, and consistent school-family collaboration.

Theory Of Action

If our school intentionally increases opportunities for communication, collaboration, and community-building with K–5 families of remote learners through regular surveys, virtual meetups, newsletters, and parent learning supports, then families will feel more connected to the school and to each other, leading to at least a 10% improvement in parent-reported partnership and community connection by May, as measured through surveys and anecdotal evidence.

Why This Matters:

Criterion 7: Communicating and collaborating with parents and the school community (CEL 5D+ rubric) focuses on building relationships, two-way communication, and partnerships beyond the classroom. *This is especially important for our remote learners*, as it emphasizes connecting with families and cultivating community. When families feel informed, supported, and connected, students show stronger academic performance and engagement. At the same time, these relationships boost family satisfaction and trust, leading to higher retention and attracting new families to our alternative learning community.

Problem of Practice

At GBS, we recognize that collaboration and family involvement with our K–5 remote learners has been improving, yet it has not always been consistent or intentional in the past. Because we lack prior numerical data, it is difficult to measure the extent of progress or identify specific areas of need. We feel that this is the time and place to begin because, without a systematic approach to fostering two-way communication and building community, some families will feel disconnected, limiting student engagement and long-term family retention.

Relevant Data

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2LXMGXY>

Action Steps

1. Ideas for Building Connection

- Offer monthly virtual parent meetups (coffee chats, Q&A, or topic-based discussions).
- Create and maintain an online community space (e.g., private platform, discussion board, or moderated group) for sharing resources, successes, and challenges.

2. Strengthen Communication

- Provide regular updates (weekly or monthly newsletters, videos, or school-wide announcements).
- Share family spotlights or success stories to highlight diverse homeschool journeys.

3. Support Parent Learning

- Host quarterly workshops or webinars on topics like: balancing homeschool life, using provided curriculum, and supporting social-emotional growth.
- Provide parents with clear contact pathways for questions and support.

4. Gather Feedback & Reflect

- Conduct surveys in October and May to measure changes in communication and collaboration (targeting at least a 10% increase in positive responses).
- Collect anecdotal stories through open-ended survey questions, parent meetings, or family showcases.

Measurement Ideas

● Quantitative:

- October baseline survey → May follow-up survey.
- Target: **10% increase** in family-reported satisfaction with communication and collaboration.

● Qualitative:

- Parent stories/anecdotes illustrating stronger partnerships, collected through surveys and events.
- Observed an increase in participation (attendance at virtual events, newsletter engagement, community space activity).