

**Catherine Coleman Bell Elementary School
Denton Independent School District
Lauren Shapiro, Principal
Community and Student Engagement Survey
2016-2017**

At Bell Elementary School, our mission is to provide a nurturing community that empowers learners to strive to reach their maximum potential by creating innovative global citizens of the future.

Bell Elementary has many programs available to our students. We have 4th and 5th grade students who lead and broadcast our Bell Broadcasting Network (morning video announcements), 5th grade Boys Leadership Club, and 4th grade Singing Bobcats Chorale, and 5th grade Honor Choir. The artwork of students has been displayed at multiple venues for the community to view and appreciate. Student campus activities include Maker Space, Destination Imagination, Robotics/Coding, STEAM workshops, and Escape Room/Problem Solving workshops offered during the school day so all have an opportunity to participate. We serve students of all needs through many different programs such as EXPO, Dyslexia, Speech and Language Therapy, Reading Recovery, Literacy Groups, Play Therapy, and much more! We are so proud of all we have been able to provide our students during our inaugural year, and are already excited about adding to this in the coming years!

We have agreed upon the following mission that we believe is our driving force for decision making on campus. Our campus leadership team works together to evaluate alignment to our mission.

Mission: To provide a nurturing community that empowers learners to strive to reach their maximum potential by creating innovative global citizens of the future.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Fine Arts	Compliance	Does the campus provide TEKS-based fine arts courses taught by content specialists to meet state and local graduation requirements including the Arts and Humanities Endorsement?	Yes	Recognized
	Parent	Does the campus provide multiple opportunities for parents and community members to attend public shows & performances?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide parents with a variety of evidence for assessing fine arts programs?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide fine arts students numerous opportunities to interact with arts experts through private lessons, clinics, master classes, and university/community arts collaborations annually?	No	
	Student	Does the campus provide students with opportunities to promote school and community culture/climate?	Yes	

The district's fine arts curriculum is based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. Our campus offers multiple courses in visual and performing arts, and students are taught how to self-reflect on their work as well as give productive critiques to their peers. The culminating products in fine arts courses are a variety of shows and/or performances (concerts, art shows, talent shows, theatrical productions, etc.). Bell Elementary provides opportunities for our choir to perform at multiple venues throughout the community, including Denton Arts & Jazz Fest. They also compete and receive superior ratings. Our student artwork and essays are also displayed at various locations throughout the community and several students have received awards for their work. Our students even designed their own art and performances for our Volunteer Recognition event this year! 5th graders have had the opportunity to participate in orchestra throughout the entire year to provide early support as they choose their electives in middle school.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Wellness and PE	Compliance	Does the campus seek information from parents related to food allergies at the time of new student enrollment?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus offer opportunities to participate in community health and wellness events?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide community health and wellness resources and information?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide developmentally appropriate bullying prevention education programming?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus have procedures in place to assist students and staff during crises?	Yes	

Bell Elementary School is committed to fostering strong health and wellness habits in each student, including safety awareness and practices. Students develop these habits not only during PE class, but throughout the day (brain breaks in the classroom, structured recess, nurse and counselor guidance lessons in the classrooms, etcetera). Information that promotes healthy living is discussed in physical education, health classes with the general education teacher, and in class when the nurse and counselor visit monthly. Strong emotional health is as important as physical health, and Bell Elementary is equally committed to this goal as well. Participation in school-wide campaigns like Red Ribbon Week and Boosterthon Fun Run encourages students to invest in creating a positive and inclusive school culture. We also focus on safety and character (no bullying) each day. Each month is focused on a character trait (honesty, resilience, kindness, etcetera), the Principal reads a quote from a famous person on announcements including what we can focus on that day as a school community based on the quote, and staff help keep a focus on this during the day. Students are recognized with Bobcat Brags when they are caught acting on one of our core values – Be a leader, Overcome obstacles, Bring a positive attitude, Cultivate character, Accept responsibility, Treat others with respect, and Show integrity.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Community and Parent Involvement	Compliance	Does the campus welcome parents and community members in planning initiatives?	Yes	Recognized
	Parent	Does the campus implement programs to increase parent and community involvement including families without currently enrolled students?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus have a comprehensive, proactive communication plan to inform community members and parents regarding campus events?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide opportunities for students and parents to be actively involved together on campus?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide students with opportunities to participate in activities that benefit the community?	No	

At Bell Elementary School, we have several opportunities for parents and community partnerships. Parents serve on our Campus Leadership Team that help analyze school data and make important decisions, including next steps for campus goals. Special programs for students, such as our Black History Month, Family Literacy Night, Fine Arts Night, Book Fairs, Boosterthon Fun Run, Read Across America Day, and Family Science Night focus on academics and strengthen the teamwork between school and community. Bell staff communicate at least weekly with parents via classroom and campus newsletters, webpages, social media (i.e. Facebook, etc.), school marquee, and phone/email blasts so that parents are kept up to date with the happenings on our campus. PTA meetings offer opportunity for parents to participate in more campus decisions. Progress is being made toward growing our Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) program, volunteer hours, and mentor programs that benefit families and students alike. End of year awards assemblies give families an opportunity to celebrate their child's growth with us as well.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
21st Century Workforce	Elementary Compliance	Does the campus guidance curriculum teach students the interpersonal skills necessary for college/career readiness?	Yes	Exemplary
	Secondary Compliance	Do the campus CTE programs include district and community stakeholders in an advisory capacity?		
	Parent	Does the campus actively cultivate business, community, and university partnerships to support 21st century workforce development?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus have systems in place for including parents in their child's preparation for the 21st century workforce?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus offer enrichment and/or competitive events for the students to reinforce their 21st century workforce skills?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus host "college days," "career days" or other events for students to show interest in post-secondary education?	Yes	

At Bell Elementary School, we believe that every day provides an opportunity for students to learn and practice interpersonal skills; this all starts with shaking teacher hands upon greeting, and looking them in the eye as they say "good morning". As early as Kindergarten, children are participating in learning experiences to teach interpersonal skills that employers emphasize such as effective communication, team building, critical thinking and conflict resolution. Our campus counselor engages students and parents in various social and future planning activities. Field day, curriculum nights, and choir and orchestra competitions are just a few examples of the competitive events that foster workforce preparation. Our 5th graders have been working on a project that will culminate at their end of year awards ceremony entitled "How I Will Leave My Legacy" which focuses on many aspects of their learning and character, but also focuses on what skills they are taking with them to middle school and beyond. Our kindergarten and third grade classes have hosted Career Days throughout the year, and it is our goal to make this a more systematic focus throughout our campus next year.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Second Language Acquisition	Compliance	Does the campus provide yearly LPAC training for all required staff?	Yes	Recognized
	Parent	Does the campus provide opportunities for non-English speaking parents to know about student programs in the school and community?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide communication in both Spanish and English?	Yes	

	Student	Does the campus have procedures in place to promote students' exit from BIL/ESL within 5 years of identification in elementary and 3 years of identification in secondary?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus offer opportunities for students to be exposed to multiple languages to promote second language acquisition?	No	
Bell Elementary provides ESL support for all of our English Language Learners. Communication is provided in the students' home language if there is a need. We also have Spanish-speaking front office staff that provide assistance to Spanish-speaking families whenever needed. Goal setting and monitoring of ESL student academic and linguistic progress is on-going and collaborative. Time is spent in Professional Learning Communities discussing student academic and language/vocabulary progress.				

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Digital Learning Environment	Compliance	Does the campus conduct annual training for students regarding digital citizenship and acceptable use of technology?	Yes	Recognized
	Parent	Does the campus provide technology training and professional development opportunities for all teachers, parents, and community members?	No	
	Parent	Does the campus provide a public Wi-Fi signal that parents and guests can use to connect to online resources?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus utilize specialists in instructional technology to engage teachers and students with technology integration?	Yes	
	Student	Do the campus teachers actively leverage technology to engage students in the learning process?	Yes	

At the beginning of each school year, the newly revised Student Code of Conduct and Technology Acceptable Use Policy are distributed to students and training is conducted so that each student is exposed to important digital citizenship information/ practices. Teachers spend time with students discussing safe technology practices throughout the year as students access our computer lab, collaboration lab, and classroom Chromebooks and iPads. Throughout the year, multiple opportunities are provided for all teachers to advance their skills and improve their practice regarding technology integration. This is evidenced by professional development focusing on technology integration, and one-on-one coaching with other teaching staff and/or from the expertise of our Instructional Technology Specialist. All district facilities broadcast a public wifi signal that allows guests and parents to access the WWW. Teachers have a variety of tools like Google Apps for Education, Office 365, student response systems, interactive projectors, iPads, Chromebooks, and other hardware/software to enhance teaching and learning. The district provides ongoing support and training on these tools so that our teachers can effectively integrate these tools to increase student engagement, collaboration, and critical thinking. The district initiative of a 2:1 device for every pair of students in the classroom started with 4th and 5th grade this year and will be expanding to 2nd and 3rd grade students next year. With these Chromebooks, teachers have participated in multiple trainings to ensure the highest level of technology integration as possible.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Dropout Prevention Strategies	Compliance	Does the campus have a system of intervention (<i>Response to Intervention</i>) for supporting all students?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus direct parents to research/information regarding the relationship between poor attendance and drop-out rates?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide opportunities for parents that reinforce the importance and value of education to students' futures?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus have a systemic plan for maximizing attendance/minimizing absenteeism?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus utilize age appropriate opportunities to engage students in college and career readiness activities to increase graduation rates/prevent dropouts?	Yes	

At Bell Elementary School, we incorporate several proactive strategies to support students on their journey toward graduation. Our Response to Intervention system allows for conversation about targeted students weekly in PLC meetings, as well as more specialized meetings that include experts and parents to discuss student needs, evaluate student progress with interventions, and determine next steps needed for the students. The Denton ISD Data Dashboard is used to monitor academic progress toward our campus goals, and is evidence of the district's commitment to continuously access real-time data to advance our continuous improvement efforts. Additionally, parent letters are mailed to all families with information emphasizing the importance of education, statistical information about higher education in relationship to earning potential, attendance correlations with school success and other such information. Our Attendance Committee works together to monitor student attendance and communicate with families to increase time in school. Denton ISD provides classes to parents that need more training on attendance and why it is so important to keep regular for our students. Parent and student activity nights are scheduled frequently throughout the year to support academic growth.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Education Programs for Gifted and Talented Students	Compliance	Does the campus have a systemic plan to ensure that Gifted and Talented teachers meet the professional learning standard for new teachers (30 hours) and for annual updates (6 hours)?	Yes	Recognized
	Parent	Does the campus provide parents with the opportunity to participate in meaningful experiences related to the education of gifted students?	No	
	Parent	Does the campus provide parents with opportunities to participate in the nomination/consideration of students for gifted and talented services?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide opportunities for gifted and talented students to participate in extracurricular activities that reinforce a variety of academic and creative skills?	No	
	Student	Does the campus provide a variety of instructional and support services for gifted and talented students?	Yes	

At Bell Elementary there are many support services and learning opportunities provided to enhance the learning experience for our students identified as Gifted and Talented, including for our teachers who serve GT students. All of our teachers serving GT students have earned specialized professional designations through the completion of additional coursework and annual training in the field of gifted education. Parent support is also offered through DAGT and campus/district EXPO nights that provide information about identifying and supporting gifted children. Our campus

provides enrichment through academic differentiation of daily lesson plans/tests/and class work. Time is spent during PLC meetings with teams not only focusing on what do we do when students do not understand, but also what do we do when students already know it.