



WVFEC

“One Book, One School” Project Leaves Parents Requesting More

Brooke Primary South

Summary

“One Book, One School” was successful in the goal of enhancing the educational experience for families and strengthen the school community engagement. The school-wide initiative resonated with parents and teachers alike.

Brooke Primary South

Wellsburg, Brooke County

[Relevant County Stat](#)

206 Students

100% Students on Free or Reduced Lunch

Mission Statement:
Our mission is to provide a high-quality educational environment that strives for the success of the whole child through excellence in teaching and learning.

[Website URL](#)

CHALLENGES

Family engagement presents challenges in identifying the best way to encourage participation, support academic involvement in a meaningful way, and motivating families to attend scheduled events. Once that challenge is explored and solutions identified, outreaching the best way to get the word out can be difficult. Subsequently, evaluating the efficacy and value of allocated resources for a particular project can also be difficult.



Challenge #1

It is consistently challenging to determine the most effective approach for messages and reaching all parents.



Challenge #2

Enhancing parental and student engagement to increase current participation rates.



Challenge #3

The books for every student and prizes are expensive.

SOLUTIONS

The "One School, One Book" initiative was introduced during a back-to-school event with the objective of engaging all parents/caregivers at the onset of the academic year. Tracking calendars were distributed and incentives for participation. Staff followed up with book trivia, parent support videos and a resource guide for further engagement. Grant funding was used to purchase the books.

Top Priorities Related to Family Engagement



Encouraging Family Reading Sessions



Promote a Positive Educational Experience



Boosting Engagement



ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS



Key Initiatives

A friendship-themed chapter book titled "Gooseberry Park" was distributed to all students grades K-2. The book was officially introduced to parents/caregivers during a back-to-school event, and a carnival-themed celebration. They offered parent/caregiver support videos and a resource guide as families read the book together at home. Incentives were rewarded, such as a reading table and other smaller prizes, during and upon completion for participation.



Key Stakeholders Engaged

- #1 All Kindergarten through 2nd grade students
- #2 Parents and caregivers
- #3 Teachers and school staff

Lessons Learned

"Get your community involved early on in the process," said Principal Michalene Mills. Brooke staff was able to work with community partners, such as Dairy Queen, to offer a reading session on a scheduled evening and participants received a free small cone. The team was also able to engage the Police Chief to attend and read to those in attendance. An identified enhancement would be to link up with a sister school to collaborate and share experiences and ideas.

OUTCOMES



Quantitative Impact

1

206 students and families participated in a literacy activity to read the same book and learn about friendship.

Qualitative Impact

2

Students experienced a sense of camaraderie while practicing to read and/or listen and learn essential social skills.

Unexpected Outcomes

3

Due to the success of the project, the copy room was converted into the Title I "Out of the Class" reading room that has been stocked with a book vending machine, book nook, new shelves, rugs and furniture.

CONCLUSION



The "One School, One Book" initiative significantly enhanced literacy engagement. The initiative was documented by students submitting a home reading calendar. Parents/caregivers have already inquired about the next featured book. Teachers acknowledged that the literacy program surpassed their initial expectations, creating a fresh avenue within the school environment to foster a culture of reading.

"One Book, One School"

The project invited parents to the school, distributed books to take home and created an achievable goal for school-wide engagement.



Activity Goal

Kindergarten through 2nd grade students read the same book with their families.

Key Actions

- Provide families with reading resources
- Communicated a feasible timeline with incentives.
- Collaborated with the community to show support.



Activity Outcomes

Exceeded teachers expectations by providing a phenomenal experience for students, parents, caregivers and educators.

