

6. Stakeholder Communication and Relationships

STANDARD: The school fosters effective communications and relationships with and among its stakeholders.

Impact Statement: A school is successful in meeting this standard when it has the understanding commitment, and support of stakeholders. School personnel seek opportunities for collaboration and shared leadership among stakeholders to help students learn and advance improvement efforts.

1. How does the school's leadership ensure that the school is responsive to community expectations and stakeholder satisfaction?

At KBES our parents are our primary stakeholders along with the military unit that they serve. An open line of communication is maintained at all levels. The School Liaison Officer is a critical component connecting military to KBES' educational efforts. The communication tools utilized are newsletters, web page, email, assignment notebooks, phone calls, and personal conferences. Formal parent conferences are offered three times per year and a visitation-by-appointment policy is provided for parents and teachers to communicate in person as-needed. The KBES School Advisory Committee meets quarterly with the Principal and is open to all parents and community members. The KB base commander provides mission briefs annually and meets regularly with the principal and staff when necessary.. The Principal maintains an open door policy inviting parents to attend the weekly school-wide assemblies, and to visit with him to share concerns and praises. The Principal further fosters open rapport by informally telephoning parents frequently. At the beginning of the academic year the kindergarten teacher and kindergarten paraeducator make home visits to introduce themselves to the kindergarten families. Parental feedback is solicited often. The recent DoDEA Customer Satisfaction Survey results have guided the school in addressing areas of weakness in the communication process. The principal and staff attend quarterly community town hall meetings.

2. How does the school's leadership foster a learning community?

Our school's leadership models and encourages both respect and open communication among staff, parents, and community stakeholders. The SAC and PTO also provide leadership opportunities within the KBES community that support our young learners. The school's administrator participates in the quarterly SAC meetings and supports the service projects of the school's PTO. The school leadership also encourages the parents of the school population to participate in the annual DoDEA Customer Satisfaction Survey (a survey administered by DoDEA to students in grades 4 through 12 and sponsors for each child enrolled in DoDEA schools from pre-K through twelfth grade). The latest survey, which posed questions related to curriculum, instruction, standards, assessment, technology, student support, and communication, was administered during the 2008-2009 school year with KBES recording 100% participation from both parents and students. The staff participates in monthly learning community meetings centered

around differentiating instruction methods, TerraNova data investigation and sharing of classroom initiatives.

3. What avenues are used to communicate information to stakeholders about students, their performance, and school effectiveness?

All parents are invited to attend the weekly school-wide assemblies, and notification is sent to parents for special award ceremonies that are to be held at KBES. TerraNova scores are reported to parents and celebrated each May/June. Academic achievement is celebrated with honor roll assemblies, good news notes at school wide meetings and special recognitions in the classroom. The parents also receive electronically the monthly school newsletter that includes the school-wide calendar of activities and events. The PTO president also uses email to communicate with the school and military community. The military community uses the email to inform the school personnel of base activities. Recently, KBES joined with the Commander to celebrate academic achievement by instituting the Commander's Honor Roll program to reward academic achievement in grades four through six. Teachers and parents also utilize students' daily assignment notebooks as tools for quick communication, as well as phone calls and face-to-face formal and informal conferences. The Kleine Brogel Air Force Base also invites the school to participate in its Town Hall meetings to promote positive, open communication between the base and school personnel. School personnel attend with the principal providing an informative briefing to the military community. The principal reports to parents electronically and at SAC meetings highlighting school successes. The principal airs a bi-monthly Armed Forces Radio radio spot that highlights events and successes of KBES.

Overall Assessment:

Kleine Brogel Elementary School is committed to, and responsive to, its stakeholders. School personnel welcome collaborative opportunities where leadership and learning may be shared for the benefit of the students. The school staff demonstrates positive efforts to continually seek parental inclusion in the education process.