



September 29, 2016

Dear Families,

The Talbott Springs Elementary School PTA knows that a strong partnership among our families, school leaders, and community at-large is important for the success of our students and school. That's why we are participating in the National PTA School of Excellence program, which celebrates partnerships between PTA and schools to enrich the educational experience and overall well-being for all students.

At a National PTA School of Excellence, families feel welcomed and empowered to support student success, and PTA is a key partner for continuous school improvement. We feel Talbott Springs Elementary School and Talbott Springs Elementary School PTA can achieve that together – and the result will be national, state and community-wide visibility for the positive impact we are making together at Talbott Springs Elementary School.

We need your help! As part of the process, National PTA requests feedback from families at two points in the school year – the beginning and end. Your feedback in the beginning of the program will help to generate a customized *Roadmap to Excellence*, which will provide specific recommendations for improving our family-school partnership and achieving excellence.

Please take 5-10 minutes to reflect on your experience at this school and complete the attached survey. Mark an "X" in the box that most accurately expresses how you feel about your experience. This survey is completely anonymous. Please return this survey to the front office by October 14, 2016.

Does this sound like a PTA program you'd really like to help with? Join us! Contact Michelle Humphrey at pta@tsespta.org to learn more!

Sincerely,

Michelle Humphrey
TSES President

Nancy Thompson
TSES Principal



SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

Family Survey

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The National PTA School of Excellence program is designed to support our school and PTA as we strengthen family-school partnerships that enrich students’ educational experiences and overall well-being. One step in the process is to gather feedback from our school family on the frequency of family engagement strategies implemented by our school. We will need your help in completing this survey at the beginning of the year and end of the year to be considered for the National PTA School of Excellence designation.

DIRECTIONS: Mark an “X” in the box that most accurately expresses how you feel about your experience. Return this survey to the front office.

	Unknown	Never	Sometime	Frequently	Always
1. My school has friendly signs inside and outside to welcome families and visitors in the multiple languages we speak.					
2. My school and PTA translates communications into the school’s major languages.					
3. I feel encouraged to volunteer.					
4. I feel my school’s policies and programs reflect, respect, and value the diversity of our school community.					
5. I feel treated fairly regardless of age, gender, race, or cultural background.					
6. My school communicates with me in multiple ways (e.g., email, phone, web site).					
7. My school provides interpreters for all meetings and events, when needed.					
8. My school provides continuous staff development for teachers regarding effective communication techniques and the importance of regular, two-way communication between the school and family.					
9. I feel I have a two-way conversation with the school staff about my child’s strengths, areas for improvement, learning styles, progress, and other concerns about my child.					
10. I feel the school provides information about my child’s progress, including progress report cards that help me understand how I can support my child’s learning.					
11. My school involves me in planning for my child’s transitions to elementary school, middle school, high school or post-secondary education or careers.					



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	Unknown	Never	Sometime	Frequently	Always
12. My school provides a range of options and choices for a wide array of extracurricular activities that reflect my child's interests, goals, and learning.					
13. My school uses adequate technology to meet the needs of today's students.					
14. My school shares student achievement data with me in ways that solicit my ideas about how to improve achievement.					
15. My school includes students in parent-teacher conferences as active participants in discussions of expectations and work quality.					
16. I understand the academic standards my child is expected to meet and how the curriculum is linked to those standards.					
17. My school informs me of the process and/or procedures to raise concerns and resolve problems.					
18. My PTA fuels parent participation on school, district, state, and national committees that focus on education issues.					
19. I feel my concerns are treated with respect and my school demonstrates a genuine interest in developing solutions.					
20. I feel my school and/or PTA provides opportunities to develop relationships and raise concerns with school district leaders, public officials, and business and community leaders.					
21. I feel PTA promotes opportunities to empower parents to advocate for the success of their own child and other children in our school.					
22. I feel the school provides information and opportunities to be informed of my rights and responsibilities under federal and state laws.					
23. My school includes parents with equal representation on decision making and advisory committees or councils.					
24. My school establishes policies that recognize and respect families' cultural, ethnic,					



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religious, and socioeconomic diversity.					
25. I feel that I am a collaborative partner that share in the decision making for areas such as policy, curricula, budget, school reform, safety, and personnel.					
26. I feel that I have input in the development of our school improvement plan.					
27. My school and/or PTA distributes information on community resources that serve the cultural, recreational, academic, health, social and other needs of families within the community.					
28. My PTA has partnerships with local businesses, community organizations, and service groups to advance student learning or assist the school or families.					
29. My PTA involves community members in school volunteer programs.					
30. My school collaborates with community services and adult learning opportunities.					
31. I feel my school is a central part of my community.					

Thank you for your continued support and collaboration as we work toward becoming a National PTA School of Excellence!