Whitsitt Elementary School has identified 3 priorities as part of the School Improvement Plan for the 2019-20 school year:

As a community school, Whitsitt Elementary School strives to improve conditions for learning through collaborative work with our partners to bring community support to the school, as organized around four pillars of support that we believe are important to preparing the whole child for success:

- Family Engagement
- College and Career Readiness
- Health and Wellness
- Social Services and Adult Development

The purpose of this strategic plan is to present (1) a brief snapshot of our school’s data and other information to demonstrate the need to coordinate resources within the pillars in support of the priorities, (2) information related to how the school currently (2018-19) coordinates resources within the pillars of support, and (3) information about how the school wants community partners to support the school in its efforts to achieve goals for students in 2019-20.

SCHOOL DEMOGRAPHICS & KEY DESCRIPTORS

| Whitsitt enjoys a diverse student body with 71% Hispanic/Latino – 44 % English Learners, 15% white, 12% African American, 2% Asian. Fifty-five (55) percent of our students (242) are economically disadvantaged. Math proficiency and mastery for 2019 was 28%; ELA 20%. Attendance: 19 percent of students were considered chronically absent. |

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Data & anecdotal information for family engagement support

- Our family engagement/family event attendance information shows more than 1,200 family members attending our events, with over 800 unduplicated visitors. With a student body of 440, that is quite a good number of families attending our events.

What was in place in 2018-19 to support family engagement

- Our family engagement has proven to be successful, with good communication, partner support (ie garden days, Fall Fest). Our PTO has done an excellent job rolling out well-attended events and engaging our school community. They continue to get better at fundraising, alleviating staff from doing much of the work.

What school wants in place in 2019-20 to support family engagement

- More volunteer translators for Parent-Teacher conference. We asked partners to volunteer and several did (thank you, Church at Woodbine) However, with nearly 45 percent EL students, we need more volunteer translators.
- We need to educate more families on the importance of school attendance. Whitsitt is at 17.6% rate of chronic absenteeism. Our goal is to reduce it to below 15%. We will
ask partners to help us drive incentives to our families and students. For example, if a class wins attendance contest, they receive a pizza party and students win prizes (books, toys). If a family improves attendance, they receive a gas gift card or supermarket gift card.

- We'd like partners/volunteers to continue to rotate on Community Garden Days, with families & students.

**COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS**

- Data & anecdotal information that indicates a need for college & career readiness support

Whitsitt continues to enjoy academic support from several partnerships, including ELP, which provides funding to run math and reading club, Turnip Green Creative after-school program, Flatrock CC with volunteers in classrooms, Church at Woodbine and DAR with reading buddies. The porch piloted a writing program with third grade. Our Power Mondays are aligned with learning.

Our FAST results show:

- FAST Reading – K 29%; 1st grade 39%
- FAST Math – K 34%; 1st grade 49%

Our MAP results show:

- MAP-Reading Math– 2nd grade 25%; 3rd grade 24%; 4th grade 17%
- MAP-Math – 2nd grade 14%; 3rd grade 24%; 4th grade 20%

**What was in place in 2018-19 to support college & career readiness**

- We held Math Brigade, with partners helping in classrooms with math tasks, flash cards and tutoring.

**What school wants in place in 2019-20 to support college & career readiness**

We'd like to continue to have classroom help from partners and parents.

Third grade has a specific Power Monday request: Financial literacy – counting money, how to open a bank account, etc.

**HEALTH & WELLNESS**

Data & anecdotal information that indicates a need for health & wellness support

- Whitsitt’s attendance – 19% percent of students considered chronically absent - was an issue stemming from external factors: health, housing issues and some immigration issues.
What was in place in 2018-19 to support health & wellness

- Our partners were very helpful with health & wellness support. Church at Woodbine continues to hold their quarterly Mobile Medical Unit. We refer our socio-economically challenged families to the medical unit at Church at Woodbine. This is a great resource for Woodbine.

What school wants in place in 2019-20 to support health & wellness:
We’d like to offer incentives for attendance and continue to refer our families to the medical unit.
We also would like garden support from our families and partners to encourage student health and wellness.

SOCIAL SERVICES & ADULT DEVELOPMENT

Data & anecdotal information that indicates a need for social services & adult development support
- We have great community agencies in Woodbine. We refer families to Conexion Americas for immigration issues. Church at Woodbine also provides free tax preparation for our families.

What school wants in place in 2019-20 to support social services & adult development:
We’d also like to collaborate to refer families to health-related events and agencies. For instance, we have a partner who has a quarterly mobile medical unit. We direct our families to use the free service. Our partner will continue to do so.
We’d like to continue to build our PTO and offer outside training, if possible.