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Subject: Exciting News! Improved Communication with TalkingPoints

Dear EPCS Families,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to share some exciting news about an initiative we are implementing at our school to enhance communication between families and our dedicated staff.

Beginning January 4, 2024, we launched TalkingPoints, a user-friendly platform designed to facilitate better and more efficient communication. Our goal is to create a stronger partnership between parents and teachers, fostering a collaborative environment that supports your child's academic success.

***Here's how it works:*** Your child's homeroom teacher will send you a text message and you will receive the message through SMS text or the Talking Points parent App. You can reply back through either method. You can also reply with an emoji. 😊

There's no charge if you have an unlimited texting plan. If not, standard text messaging fees apply - You can unsubscribe at any time by texting GOODBYE. - Download the TalkingPoints for Parents Mobile App in the app store on [iPhone](#) or [Android](#)!

Parents should be able to see all of their children's teachers when they download the Parents Mobile App. **If you do not see all of your children's teachers, you are not receiving messages, or all of the child's guardians are not receiving messages, please contact EPCS and check the following items:**

- Make sure that the correct individual(s) are identified as a guardian with your child's school.
- The guardian(s) have a Cell Phone contact type associated with them with the current text-enabled cell phone number listed. A cell phone number is required so a guardian can receive text messages through Talking Points.

Have you already downloaded the [TalkingPoints for Families app](#)? If so, read our step-by-step guide to learn how to log in for the first time, personalize your settings, and send your first message!

## Log In

**Step 1:** Select the language you would like to send and receive messages in.

**Step 2:** Type in your mobile phone number (required) and your email address (optional).

**Step 3:** Check your text messages for a 5-digit verification code from TalkingPoints. Enter the verification code to continue.

**Step 4:** Join your student's class! Input the 6-digit class code. If you do not know the class code, ask the teacher.

**Step 5:** Enter your student's name and your relationship to the student.

## Complete Your Profile

**Step 1:** Tap the 'Settings' tab.

**Step 2:** Tap 'Personal info' – the first option under Settings.

**Step 3:** Make your changes to any of the following:

- Profile photo: Tap 'Add profile photo' to add your photo. To update your profile photo, select 'Change profile photo' under your current photo. Then, you can either take a picture or select one from your gallery.
- Name: Tap on the name field and enter your name.
- Phone number: If your phone number ever changes, tap the 'Update' button. Enter your new phone number, then the 5-digit verification code to complete the change.
- Language: Tap on your current language, then select a new language.

**Step 4:** Tap 'Save.'

Adding a photo to your profile will help your child's teacher get to know you better. Consider adding a photo of yourself and your child together.

TalkingPoints offers several benefits that we believe will greatly enhance our communication efforts:

- **Multilingual Support:** One of the key features of TalkingPoints is its ability to translate messages into multiple languages. This ensures that language barriers do not hinder our ability to connect and share important information.
- **Instant Updates:** Through TalkingPoints, you will receive instant updates and announcements directly from your child's teachers. This real-time communication will help you stay informed about classroom activities, assignments, and important school events.
- **Parent-Teacher Collaboration:** The platform encourages open communication between parents and teachers. You can easily ask questions, seek clarification, and engage in conversations about your child's progress.
- **Accessibility:** TalkingPoints is accessible via web browsers and mobile apps, making it convenient for you to stay connected wherever you are.

We are confident that this new tool will strengthen the home-school partnership, ultimately benefiting your child's education.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to our school's administrative team. We are here to support you and ensure a smooth transition to this improved communication platform.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to your child's education.

Sincerely,

Dana Clark and Michael Owens  
Instructional Leadership Team