

Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2018 - 2019

1. The school will use various communication strategies to provide additional information to parents and to increase parent and family engagement in supporting classroom instruction.

- Elementary teachers will send home a weekly newsletter notifying parents of upcoming plans and events that will be taking place in the classroom or at school.
- Elementary teachers will send home a communication folder/student planner containing student papers and work samples.
- Teachers will contact parents on an individual basis to communicate about their child's progress if needed.
- The school will provide to parents' progress reports/report cards every five weeks with information regarding their child's academic progress.
- The school will have parent-teacher conferences in the fall after the completion of 5/6 weeks of school and again in the spring.
- The school will utilize the school reach phone system or send brochures home with students, post notices in school facilities and public buildings, and provide information for local newspapers and radio stations about parent workshops and meetings.

2. The school will propose parent meetings, conferences, and activities throughout this year to provide flexible meeting times to increase parent and family engagement and build staff and parent capacity to engage in these types of efforts.

- The school will have parent-teacher conferences two times throughout the school year; however, all teachers will be available for parent conferences at any time during the year. The teachers will make available scheduled conference times so that parents are able to contact him/her when they may have concerns involving their child and his/her academic progress.
- Teachers will hold conferences individually with parents of children in their classrooms. Parents will be given a summary of the student's test scores and an explanation of the interventions teachers are using to assist the child in reaching achievement goals. Parents will be asked to engage in discussion of how they can support these efforts. Parents will also be given suggestions for coordinating school-parent efforts and explanations of homework and grading procedures.
- Grade levels will rotate to conduct parent involvement activities once a month throughout the school year. These meetings will include a series of family involvement events that provide an opportunity for parents and their child/children to experience the school situation in a positive and helpful manner while the school staff may provide any needed assistance and encouragement.
- Meetings with parents will be held at various times during the day to better accommodate the parents schedule.

3. The school will provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities.

- The school will provide instructions to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation: information available through various resources, the use of and access to the Arkansas Department of Education website tools for parents, and other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction.
- The State Board of Education's Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts shall require no fewer than two (2) hours of professional development for teachers designed to enhance the understanding of effective parental involvement strategies. No fewer than three (3) hours of professional development for administrators designed to enhance the understanding of effective parent involvement strategies and the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.
- Our district will provide professional development each summer before school begins that will provide teachers with information on enhancing parent involvement in the school system.

4. A School-Parent-Compact will be created.

- A school-parent compact will outline how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards.

5. The school will provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of the school wide school improvement plan, and the Annual Title I Meeting to engage them in the decision-making processes regarding the school's Title I, Part A Program?

- Parents will be encouraged to attend and participate in the annual Report to the Public meeting.
- To take advantage of community resources, the school alumni has created an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement.
- The school has developed the formation of a Parents & Teachers in Education organization that will foster parental and community involvement within the school.

6. The school will provide resources for parents.

- The school will open the Parent Center during school hours for parents to check out materials, use the computer to check grades, or visit educational websites.
- The school will make available information each year that includes:
 - o a copy of the school's Parent and Family Engagement Plan
 - o a survey for volunteer interests
 - o recommended roles for parents/teachers/students
 - o suggestions of ways parents can become involved in their child's education
 - o information about how parents and teachers can communicate via email, text, phone conversations, and notes.
- To promote and support responsible parenting, the school shall, as funds are available, purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials regarding responsible parenting and give parents the opportunity to borrow the materials for review.
- Included in the District Policy Handbook is the school's process for resolving parental concerns.
- The principal of each school in a school district shall designate a certified staff member who is willing to serve as parent center facilitator and a non-certified staff member who is willing to serve as parent center coordinator.

7. The school will engage parents in the evaluation of the parent and family engagement efforts.

- The school will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the parent and family engagement plan through a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by teachers, parents, and school staff. Evidence will be collected about satisfaction with the program and the school's efforts to increase parental involvement will be a part of the evaluation.

8. The school will use the parent interest surveys to select, plan and implement parent and family engagement activities that will be offered throughout the year.

- The school will ask parents to fill out a parent interest survey at the Open House-Meet the Teacher night or during the first nine weeks of the school year to get information from parents concerning the activities they feel will be most beneficial in the efforts to support their child academically.
- The school will use the results of the parent interest survey and plan the parental involvement activities for the year.
- The school will evaluate the activities that were suggested by the parents at the end of the year as part of the annual parent and family engagement plan and consider suggestions for the following year.