

AR Little Rock School District
810 W. Markham Street, Little Rock AR 72201, 501-447-1000

District Parent and Family Engagement Plan

District Name:	Little Rock School District
Coordinator Name:	Kaye Rainey, District Specialist, Parent & Family Engagement
Plan Review/Revision Date:	7/29/2020
District Level Reviewer, Title	Dr. Sheketa McKisick, Coordinator, Federal Programs

Committee Members, Role:

First Name	Last Name	Position
Dr. Sheketa	McKisick	Coordinator, LRSD Federal Programs
Kaye	Rainey	Specialist/Coordinator, LRSD Parent and Family Engagement
Tammy	Blaylock	Coordinator, LRSD Volunteers in Public Schools
Karen	Greenlee	Coordinator, LRSD Title I Parent & Family Engagement (Middle School)
Marthelle	Hadley	LRSD Title I Parent Coordinator (Elementary School)
Carmen	Hernandez	LRSD Title I Parent Coordinator (Elementary School)
Jana	Hunter	Family Service Liaison, LRSD Title I Families in Transition
Yerize	Isturiz	Bilingual Family Service Liaison, LRSD Title I Families in Transition
Angelia	Johnson	Special Projects, LRSD Title I
Reginald	Merritt	Specialist, Student Services
Tagel	Muqtasid	LRSD Title I Parent, Family & Community Liaison, (High School)
B. Broadnax	Thrasher	Literacy Instructional Facilitator(High School)
Sarah	Bernhardt	Parent, High School
James	Houston	Parent, Elementary & Middle School
Karen Michelle	Collins	Parent, Elementary & Middle School
Vicki	Hatter	Parent, High School
Charlene	Kirk	Parent/PTA Council, High School
Shalonda	Michelle Nelson	Parent, High School
Alexis	Williams	Parent, Elementary
Greta	Freeman	Parent/District, High School
Walter	Washington	Parent, Elementary & Middle
Zasha	Hatter	Student, High School

1. Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives

The District and committee parents will jointly develop effective, expectations and objectives for parental and family engagement by providing strategies to support partnerships among schools, parents and families, and the community to improve student achievement. To the extent practicable, the plan will be provided in the language that parents understand.

The district Parent & Family Engagement Committee will provide input to support the development of the parent and family engagement policy and district and school improvement plans for state and federal compliance. The committee will utilize the Johns Hopkins University National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS) model to enhance parent participation and engagement in the school and community. The district and schools will utilize the six types of engagement: parenting, communication, volunteering, student learning, decision making and community collaboration. Family Leadership Inc. Parenting Partners and other programs may be provided to shape parent and family leaders through workshops to build and increase positive relationships between the parent, child, school, and community.

- The District will provide and assist parents with support and opportunities to submit comments regarding unsatisfactory implementation of the district and school plans. The comments will be submitted to the State.

Objectives and strategies for reaching the goal:

1. Continue to implement parental and family engagement policy and activities as well as

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disseminate information to the community to promote parental and family engagement throughout the District, i.e. social media, Parent Link/Blackboard, LRSD TV, LRSD Handbook, Schoology, etc.

2. Conduct an annual spring meeting with Parent Engagement Committee to update policy for the next year's Title I, Part A program, school improvement and District parent engagement. (May – June 2021)
3. Involve parents and families of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the required "set-aside" of Title I, Part A funds will be used to support parent and family engagement activities. The committee will ensure that not less than 90% of the one percent requirement goes directly to the schools.
4. Coordinate parental and family engagement activities with those of other programs (i.e. early childhood; State education departments; ESOL, college and career education, health and wellness, mental health, safety, homeless, student services, alternative education, community and district after-school programs.).
5. Ensure that each Title I, Part A school will have a parent and family engagement contact person serving as the Parent Facilitator. (Review the attachment for the list of Parent Facilitators and Title I Parent Coordinator, if applicable).
6. Conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of the Title I, Part A parental and family engagement policy and school improvement annually in May.
7. Ensure that parents and families of children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have the same access as other parents and families including information in a language and form they can understand.
8. Adhere to providing mandatory reports and notices as outlined by Arkansas and Federal regulations.
9. Assist parents and schools in the development of Student Success Plans.
10. Ensure representation of parents and families of participating children are included in the process of implementation of the parent and family engagement plan and policy.
11. Provide a parent-friendly summary of the parent and family engagement plan online as a supplement to the LRSD Handbook.

The District will file the plan with the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in the Indistar System on or before the required deadline annually.

2. Building Staff Capacity through Training and Technical Assistance

COMPONENTS OF THE LRSD READY FOR LEARNING PLAN

In order to ensure the continued well-being of our school community, the following guiding principles have been put in place:

1. Ensure a safe learning environment based upon the most current guidance from the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH).
2. Ensure the continuity of teaching and learning by providing a guaranteed and viable curriculum that addresses unfinished learning from the prior year, introduces new learning while utilizing technology to enhance regular classroom instruction.
3. Support teachers in providing virtual instruction by providing training in technology, blended learning (delivery of instruction), addressing social and emotional needs of students and self, and

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culturally responsive practices.

4. Provide guidance and support for educators, parents and students in the areas of health, safety, and social emotional learning.

5. Engage educators, parents, students, and the community. Strategies for reaching the goal:

1. Conduct ongoing site visits to observe parental and family engagement practices.

2. Provide materials and training not otherwise available to assist parents and families in supporting their child's academic achievement.

3. Enhance the awareness and skills of teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and staff in reaching out to, communicating with, and working with parents and families as equal partners through annual professional development training and requirement for certification licensure.

4. Ensure, to the extent possible, that information is sent home in a language and form parents and families can understand. (Translators) (LRSD ESOL Department)

5. Provide information on adult literacy training available in the community. (Larry Schleicher, Director, LRSD Adult Education, 447-1850)

6. Monitor schools to ensure that each school performs the following tasks:

a. Utilizes a compliance checklist to ensure the required components are implemented.

b. Updates the parental and family engagement policy.

c. Offers flexible meeting times.

d. Provides information to parents and families about the school's program, including parent and family information guides.

e. Develops and uses a School Parent and Family Compact.

f. The compact will discuss how parents, families, students, teachers, and administrators will work collaboratively to improve the academic achievement of the student.

g. Support the importance of the role of parents and families in setting high expectations for their child's performance, motivating students to achieve, and asking the right questions regarding what is happening at school.

h. Involves parents and families on committees as participants in decision-making capacities.

i. Provides families in transition the necessary information to support their child's well-being. Contact person: Dr. Sheketa McKisick (447-3350; sheketa.mckisick@lrsd.org)

j. Offer stakeholders meaningful volunteer opportunities and provide any necessary information, screening, and/or training as required for specific volunteer placements. (ViPS office 447-4450)

7. Reinforce parenting skills to support the academic skills and their application in real-life situations.

8. Encourage parent and family involvement through volunteerism by providing information and/or training to school staff in effective ways of utilizing family members as volunteers. Educate staff and volunteers of the policies and guidelines set forth by the Little Rock School District to encourage a mutually satisfying, safe, and productive support system for students and schools. The district will provide annual volunteer training for staff, parents, and community members. (ViPS office 447-

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9. Encourage parent and family participation through innovative scheduling of activities through strategies such as holding meetings at a variety of times, such as morning and evenings, in order to maximize the opportunities for parents and families to participate in school-related activities.

10. Convene annual school meetings to inform parents and families of their school's participation in the development of the parental and family engagement policy and their right to be involved.

11. Provide families in transition the necessary information to support their child's well-being.

3. Building Parent Capacity

The District will build the school's capacity for strong parental and family engagement. Contact persons: Dr. Sheketa McKisick (447-3350); Kaye Rainey (447-3358); kaye.rainey@lrsd.org).

Strategies for reaching the goal:

1. Per the LRSD Ready for Learning Plan, parents and students will be offered virtual training or guidance in the following areas:

- The District's Learning Management System (LMS) – Schoology
- Social Emotional Learning
- Health and Safety Protocols

2. Provide information to participating parents and families in such areas as national, state, and local education goals, including parents' rights as defined in Title I, Part A.

3. Assist in the development of parent and family engagement activities at each school.

4. Encourage the formation of partnerships between schools, local parent, and family engagement organizations that include a role for parents and families.

5. Provide resources for parents and families to learn about child development, child rearing practices, and academic strategies that are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their child. Utilize the Six Types of Involvement (NNPS) and other the Parenting Partners model.

6. Involve parents and families through an annual survey to improve school effectiveness.

7. Approve reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental and family engagement activities.

8. Provide any reasonable support for parental and family engagement at the request of participating Title I, Part A parents.

9. Distribute information regarding the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Summary and Plan through District website, meetings, and District communication. Signatures may be requested during parent-teacher conferences and other avenues of parent engagement activities and media.

10. Collaborate with community partnerships to provide incentives to increase parent and family engagement.

11. Collaborate with the District's Communication Department to broaden and provide appealing advertisement regarding parent and family engagement activities.

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Additional ways to build parent capacity:

1. Recruit parents to serve on District School Improvement Committee to develop the Title I Application.
 - a. Parents may be selected from and by a core group of parents who are members of the Title I Parental and Family Engagement Committee.
 - b. Selected parent(s) will meet with the district team and share information with the Title I Parental and Family Engagement Committee and School Cluster Team meetings. The selected parent(s) will also share parent concerns about school improvement with the district leadership team.
 - c. The three (3) Cluster Teams (Central-East, Southwest and West) are comprised of all the schools in the district (except the LRSD Early Childhood Centers and non-traditional facilities) and parents and families are invited to attend Cluster Team meetings at their child's school. Additionally, parents and families are invited to participate on one of the three Cluster Teams.
2. Involve parents and families in understanding strategies for assisting students identified as low achievers.
 - a. Provide information and workshops regarding core subject interventions for students.
 - b. Provide information and resources regarding curriculum and career readiness that are utilized throughout the district.
3. Provide information to parents and families regarding the selection process of resource materials to be purchased by utilizing Title I funds.
 - a. Provide information regarding how the district distributes the Title I allocation to Title I schools.
 - b. Provide examples of grade level materials provided to the school parent and family center and for workshops.
 - c. Meet with the LRSD Parent and Family Engagement Committee each semester regarding purchases made utilizing Title I funds.
4. Involve parents and families in District workshops regarding classroom strategies for identified students. (LRSD School Cluster Teams: Central-East, Southwest and West)
 - a. Provide information regarding technology available to students.
 - b. Provide information to parents and families regarding college and career opportunities for students.
 - c. Provide parents and families with information and resources regarding grade level transitions.
5. Assist parents with understanding Student Success Plans

Little Rock School District (LRSD) schools, except the LRSD Early Childhood Centers (ECCs and non-traditional facilities), are members active of National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS) Johns Hopkins University. The NNPS School, Family and Community Partnership model is designed to enhance parent participation, involvement and engagement in the school and community. The model is researched and evidenced based and references the Six Types of Involvement. To support and carryout the School, Family and Community Partnership requirements, LRSD Parent & Family Engagement (PFE) unit organized three (3) Cluster Teams (Central-East, Southwest, and West) to provide engaging parent and family activities to support student success. Each team selected a team

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leader and recorder to collaborate within the LRSD PFE unit. (Kaye Rainey, Specialist, Parent & Family Engagement, 447-3358)

Six Types of Involvement: Keys to Successful Partnerships

TYPE 1 Parenting: Assist families with parenting skills and setting home conditions to support children as students. Also, assist schools to better understand families.

TYPE 2 Communicating: Conduct effective communications from school-to-home and from home-to-school about school programs and student progress.

TYPE 3 Volunteering: Organize volunteers and audiences to support the school and students. Provide volunteer opportunities in various locations and at various times.

TYPE 4 Learning at Home: Involve families with their children on homework and other curriculum-related activities and decisions.

TYPE 5 Decision Making: Include families as participants in school decisions, and develop parent leaders and representatives.

TYPE 6 Collaborating with the Community: Coordinate resources and services from the community for families, students, and the school, and provide services to the community.

Epstein, J.L., Sanders, M.G., Simon, B.S., Salinas, K. C., Jansorn, N. R., Van Voorhis, F.L. (2019). School, family, and community partnerships: Your handbook for action. Fourth Edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press, Inc.

LRSD Events and Activities

The district will provide the following collaboration to continuously build parent and staff capacity. Many collaborations will be provided through online platforms.

- Parent Facilitators/Coordinators/Liaisons Training – Title I Crate August 2020
- District Parent Engagement (Review of the Parent and Family Engagement Plan) May-July 2020
- Midtown Health Alliance Bike with a Cop Community Event September 2020
- Child Care Aware of Northwest AR State Parent Engagement Conference September 2020
- Parent Academy for Student Success Back-to-School Parent Engagement Conference (School Cluster Teams) August/September/October, 2020
- Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan due to AR Department of Education August 1, 2020
- School Parent Engagement Plans – Post to school's website August 1, 2020
- Parenting Partners Leadership Train-of-Trainers and Parent Workshops October-December 2020 January-February 2021
- LRSD-Learn Fresh Education NBA Math Hoops Parent & Student Engagement October 2020–March 2021
- District Parent Engagement Committee Meeting February 2021
- National Title I Conference February 2021
- Computer Power Day/Workshops Plus Cluster Team (Grade Transition, Health & Wellness, College and Career, Technology and et al) August 2020 and March 2021
- Literacy and Math parent training-Summer Materials Distribution May 2021 Parent Facilitators/Coordinators/Liaisons Training August 2020 and April 2021

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- AR Parent Coordinators Conference March, 2021
- 2020 National Family and Community Engagement Conference July 2021
- Ongoing Parent Coordinator Training August 2020–July 2021
- Midtown Health Alliance/Southwest Hometown Health community meetings August 2020-July 2021 Parent Leadership Development Training Ongoing
- NNPS Training for Parent Coordinators/Parent Facilitators/Educators-Webinars Ongoing Parent Engagement Professional Development Ongoing
- Conversational Spanish Class – Optional TBA

4: Reservation and Evaluation

The district will involve parents and families of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the required "set-aside" of Title I, Part A funds will be used to support parent and family engagement activities. The committee will ensure that not less than 90% of the one percent requirement goes directly to the schools.

Provide information to parents and families regarding the selection process of resource materials to be purchased by utilizing Title I funds.

- a. Provide information regarding how the district distributes the Title I allocation to Title I schools.
- b. Provide examples of grade level materials provided to the school parent and family center and for workshops.
- c. Meet with the LRSD Parent and Family Engagement Committee each semester regarding purchases made utilizing Title I funds.

The District will conduct, with the engagement of parents and families, ongoing evaluations of the content and effectiveness of the parental and family engagement policy as it relates to strategies for increasing parental and family participation and identifying barriers to greater parent and family participation. Utilize the six types of engagement. Contact persons: Kaye Rainey (447-3358), kaye.rainey@lrds.org); and the Parent and Family Engagement Committee.

Strategies for reaching the goal:

2. Survey parents and families annually, including questions to identify barriers to parental and family engagement.
3. Provide an opportunity for parents and families to assist in the development of the evaluation procedures, including analysis of data collected.
4. Develop procedures for collecting parent and family participation documentation through sign-in lists for workshops, meetings, and conferences; schedules; brochures; meeting notes; and other means as appropriate throughout the school year.
5. Use findings from evaluation processes to:
 - a. Make recommendations to each participating school for parent and family engagement policy revisions.
 - b. Provide suggestions for designing school improvement policies, as they relate to parental and family engagement.
 - c. Provide and assist parents with support and opportunities to submit comments regarding unsatisfactory implementation of the district and school plans. The comments

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will be submitted to the State.

6. Develop and disseminate an annual parent and family activity evaluation report to share upon request with stakeholders.
7. The District shall review and approve each school's parent and family engagement plan

5: Coordination

The district shall coordinate with community and business stakeholders to assist in providing supports and resources in the following ways.

1. Involve parents and families in understanding strategies for assisting students identified as low achievers.
 - a. Provide information and workshops regarding core subject interventions for students.
 - b. Provide information and resources regarding curriculum and career readiness that are utilized throughout the district.
2. Encourage the formation of partnerships between schools, local parent, and family engagement organizations that include a role for parents and families.
3. Offer stakeholders meaningful volunteer opportunities and provide any necessary information, screening, and/or training as required for specific volunteer placements. (ViPS office 447-4450)
4. Collaborate with community partnerships to provide incentives to increase parent and family engagement.
5. Assist parents with understanding Student Success Plans.
6. Little Rock School District (LRSD) schools, except the LRSD Early Childhood Centers (ECCs), are members active of National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS) Johns Hopkins University. The NNPS School, Family and Community Partnership model is designed to enhance parent participation, involvement and engagement in the school and community. The model is researched and evidenced based and references the Six Types of Involvement. To support and carryout the School, Family and Community Partnership requirements, LRSD Parent & Family Engagement (PFE) unit organized three (3) Cluster Teams (Central-East, Southwest, and West) to provide engaging parent and family activities to support student success. Each team selected a team leader and recorder to collaborate within the LRSD PFE unit. (Kaye Rainey, Specialist, Parent & Family Engagement, 447-3358)
7. Family Leadership Inc. Parenting Partners or other community partnerships may be provided to shape parent and family leaders through workshops to build and increase positive relationships between the parent, child, school, and community.
8. Encourage stakeholders to review the Arkansas DESE website for additional and supportive information regarding the Family and Community Engagement Framework and Toolkit. <http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/im- looking-for/parents>.