Little Rock School District School Improvement Status: Needs Improvement Levels: Percent of free and reduced lunch (K-12): Approx. 72% (2018-2019)

2019-2020 LRSD Parent and Family Engagement Committee and **Action Team Members**

Dr. Sheketa McKisick, Coordinator, LRSD Title I Kaye Rainey, Specialist, LRSD Parent and Family Engagement

Tammy Blaylock, Coordinator, Volunteers in Public Schools Dr. Anita Farver, Assistant Coordinator, LRSD Title I Karen Greenlee, Title I Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator, LRSD Cloverdale Middle Marthelle Hadley, Title I Parent Coordinator, LRSD Stephens Elementary Carmen Hernandez, Title I Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator, LRSD Chicot Elementary 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, Title I Parent, Family & Community Liaison, LRSD Southwest HS B. Broadnax Thrasher, English Teacher, LRSD JA Fair HS Sarah Bernhardt, Parent, High School Ivy Chan (Bilingual), Parent, Elementary/District, Karen Michelle Collins, Parent, Elementary & Middle School Dr. Caron Lott-Dunn, Parent, High School Greta Freeman, Parent/District, High School Vicki Hatter, Parent, High School Charlene Kirk, Parent/PTA Council, High School Shalonda Michelle, Parent, High School

Edna Perkins, Parent, Elementary Walter Washington, Parent Elementary/Middle Alexis Williams, Parent, Elementary

The Little Rock School District will support programs, activities and procedures for the engagement of parents and families in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with Section 1116 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA/ESSA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation and engagement with parents and families of participating children.

The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental and family engagement and expects its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental and family engagement means the participation of parents and families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring —

A) involve parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency plan under section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1111(d).

- (B) provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the local educational agency in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education;
- (C) coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under this part with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs;
- (D) conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, including identifying—
 - (i) barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by this section (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background);
 (ii) the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children.
 - (ii) the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and
 - (iii) strategies to support successful school and family interactions;
- (E) use the findings of such evaluation in subparagraph (D) to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies described in this section; and
- (F) involve parents in the activities of the schools served under this part, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the local educational agency to adequately represent the needs of the population served by such agency for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy.

Little Rock School District Title I and non-Title I schools will involve parents and families in the development and implementation of the District's policy and the process of school review and improvement through the following goals and strategies.

1: The District 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.

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 designed 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 will 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. Contact persons: Dr. Sheketa McKisick (447-3350); Kaye Rainey (447-3358); kaye.rainey@lrsd.org);

Objectives and strategies for reaching the goal:

- 1. Continue to implement parental and family engagement policy and activities as well as 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 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 2020)
- 3. Involve parents and families of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental and family engagement is spent, and ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved 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, 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. (See 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. (May, 2020)
- 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 state regulations Act 1373 and Act 2243/1307.
- 9. Assist parents and schools in the development of Student Success Plans.
- 10. 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.
- 11. 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.
- 12. 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 Indistar by August 1.

2: The District will build capacity through support, technical assistance, coordination and other support necessary to assist participating Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental and family engagement to include policies, plans, compacts, workshops, conferences, webinars, and online resources. These initiatives will build capacity with parents as equal partners. To the extent practicable, information will be provided to parents in an understandable format. Contact persons: Dr. Sheketa McKisick, 447-3351; Kaye Rainey, 447-3358; kaye.rainey@lrsd.org).

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.

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

- f. 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.
- g. Involves parents and families on committees as participants in decision-making capacities.
- h. Provides families in transition the necessary information to support their child's well-being. (Dr. Anita Farver, Asst. Coordinator, Title I, 447-3349, anita.farver@lrsd.org)
- i. 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 447-4450)
- 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: 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. 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.
- 2. Assist in the development of parent and family engagement activities at each school.
- 3. Encourage the formation of partnerships between schools, local parent, and family engagement organizations that include a role for parents and families.
- 4. 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 the Parenting Partners model.
- 5. Involve parents and families through an annual survey to improve school effectiveness.
- 6. Approve reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental and family engagement activities.
- 7. Provide any reasonable support for parental and family engagement at the request of participating Title I, Part A parents.
- 8. 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.
- 9. Collaborate with community partnerships to provide incentives to increase parent and family engagement.
- 10. Collaborate with the District's Communication Department to broaden and provide appealing advertisement regarding parent and family engagement activities.

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 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), 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)

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, et. al. 2002. School, Family, and Community Partnerships: Your Handbook for Action, Second Edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press, Inc.

4: The District shall involve parents and families of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental and family engagement is spent, and ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved 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@lrsd.org); and the Parent and Family Engagement Committee.

Strategies for reaching the goal:

- 1. Survey parents and families annually, including questions to identify barriers to parental and family engagement.
- 2. Provide an opportunity for parents and families to assist in the development of the evaluation procedures, including analysis of data collected.
- 3. 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.
- 4. 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 will be submitted to the State.
- 5. Develop and disseminate an annual parent and family activity evaluation report to share upon request with stakeholders.
- 6. The District shall review and approve each school's parent and family engagement plan.
- 5: The District will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports and resources to families such as public preschool programs or organizations to help students transition to elementary, middle, high, and postsecondary schools or careers.
 - 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 will 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.

LRSD/Title I Parent and Family Engagement Activities (Contact person: Kaye Rainey, 447-3358; kaye.rainey@lrsd.org; or Dr. Sheketa McKisick, 447-3350; sheketa.mckisick@lrsd.org

Parent Facilitators/Coordinators/Liaisons Training – Title I Crate	August 2019
District Parent Engagement (Review of the Parent and Family Engagement Plan)	August-September 2019
Child Care Aware of Northwest AR State Parent Engagement Conference	September 2019
Parent Academy for Student Success Back-to-School Parent Engagement Conference (School Cluster Teams)	August/September/October, 2019
Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan due to AR Department of Education	October 1, 2019
School Parent Engagement Plans – Post to schools website	October 1, 2019
Parenting Partners Leadership Train-of-Trainers and Parent Workshops	October-December 2019 January-February 2020
LRSD-Learn Fresh Education NBA Math Hoops Parent & Student Engagement	October 2019– March 2020
District Parent Engagement Committee Meeting	February 2020
National Title I Conference	February 2020
Computer Power Day/Workshops Plus Cluster Team (Grade Transition, Health & Wellness, College and Career, Technology and et al)	March 2020
Literacy and Math parent training-Summer Materials Distribution	April-May 2020
Parent Facilitators/Coordinators/Liaisons Training	April 2020
AR Parent Coordinators Conference	March, 2020
2020 National Family and Community Engagement Conference	July 2020
Ongoing Parent Coordinator Training	August 2019–June 2020
Midtown Health Alliance/Southwest Hometown Health community meetings	August 2019-June 2020
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

2019-2020 Parent Facilitators and Parent Coordinators

District Specialist, LRSD Parent and Family Engagement, Kaye Rainey, <u>kaye.rainey@lrsd.org</u>

	PARENT	Engagemeni, Kaye Kainey, <u>kaye.raine</u>	, ensurer
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Baseline Academy	Nanette Palino and	nanette.patino@lrsd.org	
·	Dr. Angela Munns	angela.munns@lrsd.org	
2. Forest Heights STEM (K-8)	Laura Gowan	laura.gowan@lrsd.org.org	
HIGH			
3. Central HS	Dr. Frankie James	frankie.james@lrsd.org	
4. J.A. Fair HS	Kristina Peterson	kristina.peterson@lrsd.org	
5. Hall HS	Marlo Caldwell	marlo.caldwell@lrsd.org	
6. McClellan HS	Renitia Bullard	renitia.bullard@lrsd.org	
7. Parkview Magnet HS	M'Shay Callicott	mshay.callicott@lrsd.org	
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10. Henderson MS	Sharon Johnson	sharon.johnson@lrsd.org	
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			Carmen Hernandez-
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