

**6TH GRADE ACADEMY  
PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT  
2017-2018**

**Superintendent:**  
Dr. Tiffany Hardrick

**Parent Facilitator:**  
Jana Washington

**School Improvement Status:**  
Priority

**LMAE Parent Committee Members:**  
Jana Richey, Parent Facilitator  
LaSandra Bean, Title I Parent Coordinator  
Karonica Smith, Parent  
Beatrice Word, Parent  
Etwona Jones, Parent  
Chris Oswald, Teacher

**Goal 1:** 6th Grade Academy will utilize various communication strategies to provide additional information to parents and to increase Parent and Family Engagement in supporting classroom instruction.

Strategies for reaching goal:

- The school will distribute a monthly newsletter to parents that is developed with participation of the parent- school organization, principal, staff and parent volunteers. It includes school news, a calendar of school activities, and parenting tips related to school achievement such as homework tips, organizational skills, and study skills.
- The school will create a Web site to house classroom Web sites for each teacher. Homework assignments and pertinent classroom information will be available on classroom Web sites. Also, parents can access their child's grades using a PIN number they received at the beginning of the school year. Parents may use e-mail to communicate with members of the school staff.
- The school will provide to parents reports/report cards every four weeks with information regarding their child's academic progress and upcoming classroom and school events.
- Teachers call parents twice within each nine weeks grading period. Phone logs are completed and submitted to the principal.
- The school will use the student handbook, school Web site, signage at the school entrance, and parent orientation meetings about the Schoolwide Title I Plan and how to get a copy upon request.

**Goal 2:** 6th Grade Academy will host parent meeting, conferences and activities regularly throughout this year, offering flexible meeting times, to increase Parent and

Family Engagement and build staff and parent capacity to engage in these types of efforts.

Strategies for reaching goal:

- Teachers will hold conferences individually with parents of children in their classrooms. Parents will also be given suggestions for coordinating school-parent efforts and explanations of homework and grading procedures.
- Meetings will include parent training sessions to help parents understand how to enhance their child's education. They will include a Literacy Night and a Math Night.
- The school will offer parents a special workshop each year to provide an explanation of the statewide assessment system, standards, and other accountability measures.
- The meetings will be held at various times during the day or evening to better accommodate parents.
- The school will encourage parents in the following types of roles and activities to increase their involvement and support for student learning—
  - Library assistant
  - Reading buddy
  - Mentor
  - Teacher assistant tutor
  - Special parent lunches
  - Book fair helpers
  - Grandparents Day
  - Awards day presentation
  - Field day volunteers
  - Family reading night
  - Parent education workshops
  - Orientation presentations
  - Open House
  - Parent-school organization
  - Red Ribbon Week
  - Music Department concerts
  - Flex Fridays
  - Various committees.

**Goal 3:** 6th Grade Academy will provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities.

Strategies for reaching goal:

- **State Requirement-**Provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation: role play and demonstration by trained volunteer, the use of and access to the Department of Education website tools for parents, assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation and other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Department of Education.

- **State Requirement-**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 understand of effective Parent and Family Engagementstrategies. No fewer that three (3) hours of professional development for administrators designed to enhance understanding of effective parent involvement strategies and the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.
- The school will work with Stewart Elementary School to help provide a smooth transition from one school to the next by raising parent awareness of procedures and related activities. The school will host special orientation programs for parents and students to help with the transition. Parents will have the opportunity to meet the new teachers at the end of the school year.

### **2017-2018: Proposed Parent Meetings**

- Aug. 5      Back to School Fair and Parent Orientation Meeting 8:00 a.m.-12:00p.m.
- Aug. 11      District Open House 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
- Aug.11      Parent Orientation Meeting during Open House (4:00-6:00)
- Sept. 18      Mid -9 Weeks Progress Report
- Sept. 21      Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
- Oct. 5      Math and Science Session with Parents 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m
- Oct. 2-6      First Interim Assessment (ACT Aspire)
- Oct. 23      Report Cards go Home
- Oct. 24      Title 1 Report to the Public 4:00 p.m. Title 1 Annual Meeting 4:30 p.m.
- Nov. 28      Progress Reports go home
- Nov. 14      Title 1 Annual Meeting 4:30 p.m.
- Nov. 28      Report Cards go home.
- Dec. 20      Winter Wonderland Success Night (Christmas Break Activities and Parent Information Provided) Math and Science Materials and information provided.
- Jan. 22      ACT Aspire Writing and Keyboarding Workshop (Parents will be participate and type in a simulated writing test.) Report Cards also go home.
- Feb.14      Mid 9 Weeks Progress Report
- Feb. 22      Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00 p.m.-6:00p.m.

Mar. 7 ACT Aspire Parent Evening (Band students perform.)

Apr. 30 Mid 9 Weeks Progress Report

**Description of the supports to be provided to engage parents and community in the school's Turnaround Efforts and Parent and Family Engagement Analysis:**

One important aspect of Turnaround Efforts is partnering with parents. Parents will be provided materials, strategies, data analysis, and homework support in order to assist students with best practices that will lead to proficiency.

**Support for Parents of Non-Proficient Students**

Parents will be provided the 2017-2018 ACT Aspire individualized reports for their children. After each Interim assessment, parents will be informed of their child's progress and areas that need to be strengthened. Categories will be disaggregated into Reporting Categories: Exceeding, Ready, Close, and Needs Support. Parents will also be provided seminars and resources that will support ELA, Math, and Science proficiency. Parents will have an opportunity to have their child enrolled in the 6th Grade Academy Afterschool Program. Students will be provided differentiated support in literacy and math. They will also be given a meal and transportation home. Parents will receive professional development with technology in areas such as interactive websites, kindles, google classroom, and Chrome Books. These tools will be utilized to increase proficiency and support parents.

**Support for Parents of Proficient Students**

In order to support parents of proficient students, parents will be introduced to strategies that will provide enrichment. Parents will be given materials such as books for book studies, flash cards, examples of ACT Test formatted questions, and writing samples. Kindles will also be utilized to reinforce enrichment of literacy through technology. Parents will engage in seminars that will give them a testing experience that mirrors what their children will experience for the spring ACT Aspire summative testing. In addition, parents will also be enlightened of the keyboarding expectation.

Data analysis will be afforded to parents to emphasize the challenge of not only remaining proficient, but reaching to the Exceeding Reporting Level category.

### **Community Support for Turnaround Efforts**

External stakeholders such as the public library, EEOC, and the Great Rivers Coop collaborate with the school staff to provide literacy support for parents. Community stakeholders offer classes that will support math proficiency in programs such as real estate and banking seminars. Four high school seniors also provide tutoring assistance and small group guided math instruction in the areas of literacy and math. Volunteers will provide materials and hands on activities that will give students real world application of math strategies and standards that they have learned in their math classes. The 4 H Club Volunteers provide outdoor science activities that integrate classroom and laboratory experiences for the children. Students also design an outdoor garden that they have the opportunity to utilize science hands on learning.

**Goal 4:** 6th Grade Academy will work with parents to create a School-Parent-Compact.

#### Strategies for reaching goal:

School staff, parents, and students will develop a school-parent-student compact. This 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. All stakeholders will sign the compact. This compact was revised to include all teachers that the students have for all content areas (literacy, math, science, and social studies).

**Goal 5:** 6th Grade Academy 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.

#### Strategies for reaching goal:

- **State Requirement-**To take advantage of community resources, the school shall consider recruiting alumni from the school to create an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement.
- **State Requirement-**The school shall enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Association or organization that will foster parental and community involvement within the school.

- To take advantage of community resources, the school shall consider recruiting alumni from the school to create an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement.
- The school shall enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Association or organization that will foster parental and community involvement within the school.
- The school will engage parents in decision making about the allocation of its Title I, Part A funds for parental engagement

**Goal 6:** 6th Grade Academy will provide resources for parents.

Strategies for reaching goal:

- **State Requirement**-The school will distributed Informational packets each year that includes a copy of the school's Parent and Family Engagement plan, survey for volunteer interests, recommended roles for parents/ teachers/students and school, suggestions of ways parents can become involved in their child's education, Parent and Family Engagement activities planned for the current school year and information about the system that will be used to allow parents and teachers to communicate (notes, phone calls, e-mail, etc).
- **State Requirement**To promote and support responsible parenting, the school shall, as funds are available: Purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials regarding responsible parenting through the school library, advertise the current selection, and give parents the opportunity to borrow the materials for review.
- **State Requirement**-A parent center is located in the library. Include in the school's policy handbook the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions.
- **State Requirement**The principal of each school in a school district shall designate (1) certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator.
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- To promote and support responsible parenting, the school shall, as funds are available: Purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials regarding responsible parenting through the school library, advertise the current selection, and give parents the opportunity to borrow the materials for review.
- A parent center is located in the Parent/Teacher Resource Room.
- Include in the school's policy handbook the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions.

- The principal of each school in a school district shall designate (1) certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator.

**Goal 7:** 6th Grade Academy will engage parents in the evaluation of your Parent and Family Engagement efforts.

Strategies for reaching goal:

- The school will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the Title I, Part A Program's Parent and Family Engagement Plan efforts through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by teachers, parents and school staff. The Title I committee, made up of teachers, parents and school staff, will determine the effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Plan and make changes if warranted. While collecting evidence about satisfaction with the program and the school's efforts to increase Parent and Family Engagement will be a part of the evaluation, the survey will also collect specific information on the (1) growth in number of parents participating in workshops and meetings; (2) specific needs of parents; (3) effectiveness of specific strategies; and (4) engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth.
- A parental engagement survey will be sent home annually to evaluate the effectiveness of our parental engagement program.
- A parent committee will be assembled to discuss the results of the parental engagement survey.

**Goal 8:** 6th Grade Academy will use the parent interest surveys to select, plan and implement Parent and Family Engagement activities that will be offered throughout the year.

Strategies for reaching goal:

- The school will ask parents to fill out a parent interest survey at registration and/or at the beginning of each 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 will be used to plan the Parent and Family Engagement 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 evaluation.

**Goal 9:** 6th Grade Academy will plan the Annual Title I Meeting.

Strategies for reaching goal:

- The school will conduct an Annual Title I Meeting for parents of the students who participate in the Title I, Part A Program.

- The school will hold their annual Title I meeting separate from any other meetings or activities to ensure that they have ample time to provide a description/explanation of school curriculum, information on forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress and information on proficiency level students are expected to meet.
- For each Title I, Part A School, an Annual Title I Meeting must be conducted. The agenda, the sign-in sheet and the minutes for this meeting must be generated separately from any other events and kept on file in the school's office.