

6th Grade Academy



Parent and Family Engagement Information Packet



6th Grade Academy

1133 North Division Street

Forrest City, AR 72335

870-633-1810

School Parent Committee for 6th Grade Academy 2017

Karonica Smith

Mother of Joshua Smith

Cell 501-442-9907

Beatrice Word Junior High School

Mother of Kagan Word

Work 870-633-3230

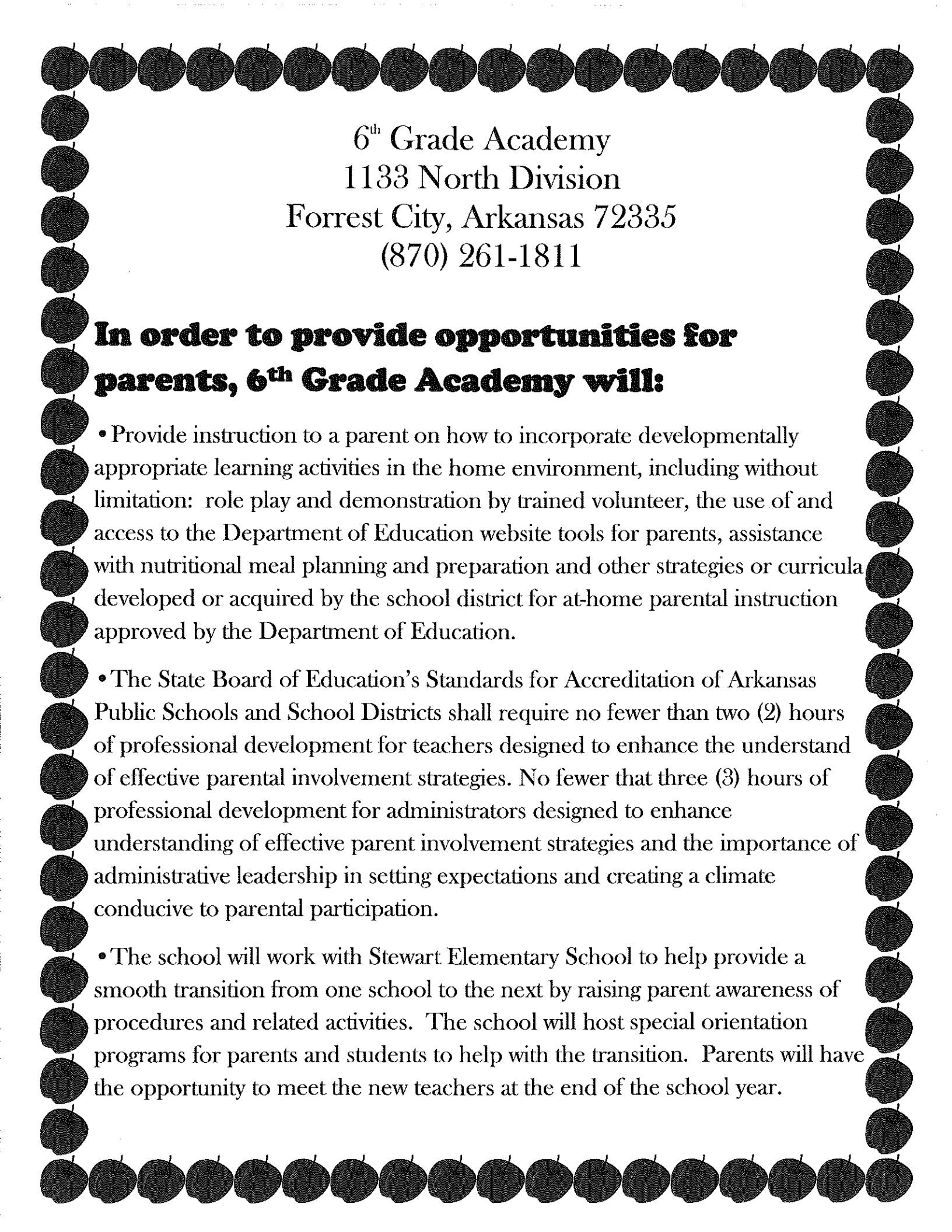
Etwona Jones

Mother of Elijah Jones

Cell 870-394-2967

Parent Facilitator-Jana Washington

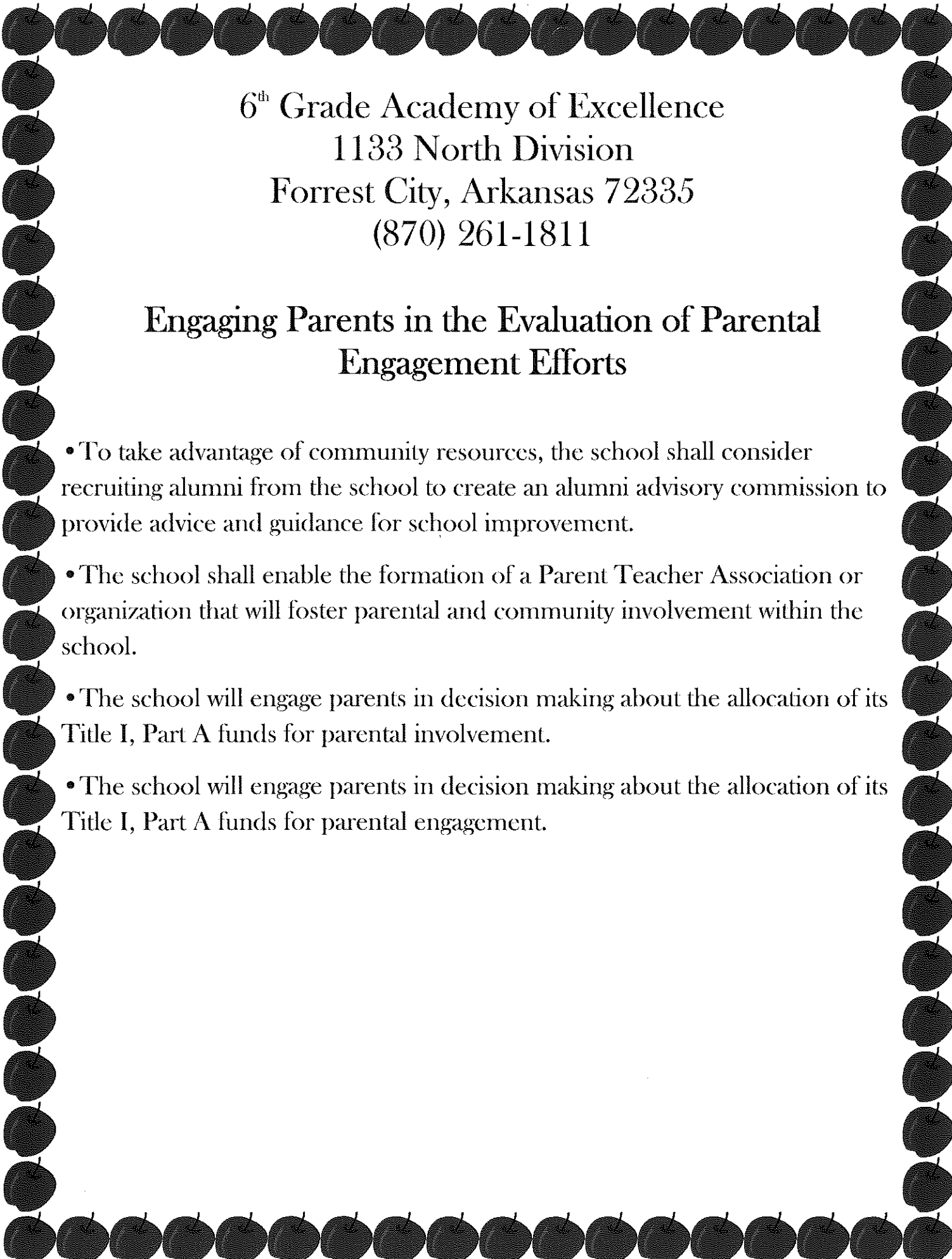
Cell 901-828-0598



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In order to provide opportunities for parents, 6th Grade Academy will:

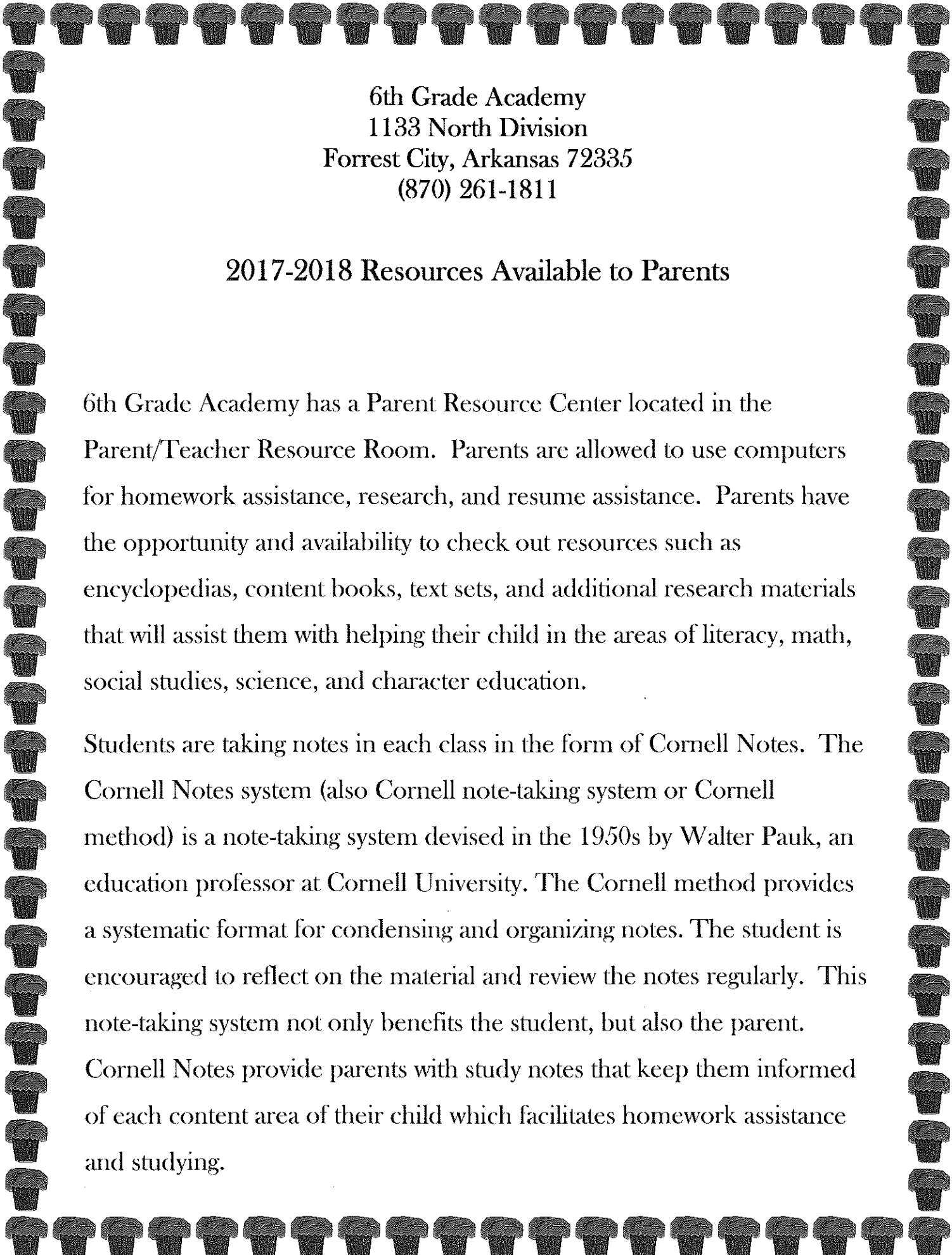
- Provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation: role play and demonstration by trained volunteer, the use of and access to the Department of Education website tools for parents, assistance with 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.
- 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 parental involvement strategies. 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.

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Engaging Parents in the Evaluation of Parental Engagement Efforts

- 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 involvement.
- The school will engage parents in decision making about the allocation of its Title I, Part A funds for parental engagement.



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2017-2018 Resources Available to Parents

6th Grade Academy has a Parent Resource Center located in the Parent/Teacher Resource Room. Parents are allowed to use computers for homework assistance, research, and resume assistance. Parents have the opportunity and availability to check out resources such as encyclopedias, content books, text sets, and additional research materials that will assist them with helping their child in the areas of literacy, math, social studies, science, and character education.

Students are taking notes in each class in the form of Cornell Notes. The Cornell Notes system (also Cornell note-taking system or Cornell method) is a note-taking system devised in the 1950s by Walter Pauk, an education professor at Cornell University. The Cornell method provides a systematic format for condensing and organizing notes. The student is encouraged to reflect on the material and review the notes regularly. This note-taking system not only benefits the student, but also the parent.

Cornell Notes provide parents with study notes that keep them informed of each content area of their child which facilitates homework assistance and studying.

6th Grade Academy Commitments:

- ✓ Monthly newsletter that includes school news, a calendar of school activities, and parenting/homework/organizational/study tips.
- ✓ Homework assignments and pertinent information will be available on the web school site.
- ✓ 6TH GRADE ACADEMY will offer a special workshop to parents on the school's approach to school improvement.
- ✓ 6TH GRADE ACADEMY will host monthly parent nights to inform parents of upcoming project based learning (PBL) activities.
- ✓ 6TH GRADE ACADEMY will host parent training sessions to help parents understand how to enhance their child's education.
- ✓ 6TH GRADE ACADEMY will host monthly parent nights that provide an opportunity for parents and their children to experience the school situation in a positive manner.
- ✓ 6TH GRADE ACADEMY will host a workshop each year to provide an explanation of the statewide assessment system, standards, and other accountability measures.
- ✓ 6TH GRADE ACADEMY will encourage parents in the following types of roles: teacher assistant, tutor, special parent lunches, book fair helper, Grandparents Day, awards day presentation, field day volunteers, parent education workshops, open house, parent- school organization, D.A.R.E graduation, various committees, and D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students)
- ✓ 6TH GRADE ACADEMY will provide a list of volunteer opportunities and solicit ideas for other types of volunteer efforts during orientation of parents.
- ✓ 6TH GRADE ACADEMY will provide brief training sessions to parents and community members with information they need to participate as school volunteers.
- ✓ 6TH GRADE ACADEMY will work with LMAE to provide a smooth transition. (In May)
- ✓ 6TH GRADE ACADEMY will provide opportunities to have Breakfast with the Principal. (Organized by Ms. Robinson)

- ✓ The school will provide two semester Parent Nights.
- ✓ The school will involve parents on school improvement planning committees.
- ✓ The school will ask staff to serve on curricular and instructional review committees.
- ✓ The school shall consider recruiting an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement.
- ✓ The school shall enable the formation of a PTA.
- ✓ Maintain a welcoming and resourceful Parent Center
- ✓ Survey
- ✓ Informational Packet
- ✓ Title I Meeting



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Proposed Parent Engagement Meetings 2017-2018

| Date | Event |
|-------------|--|
| 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. 3 | Title I Report to the Public 4:00 p.m. |
| Oct. 3 | Title I Annual Meeting 4:30 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 | Parent Night ELA and Social Studies 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. |
| Nov. 28 | Progress Reports go home |
| Nov. 14 | Title I 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

Parental Involvement 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 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.

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| 2017-2018 Communication Strategies |
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6th Grade Academy will communicate with parents in the following ways:

- Parents will be contacted by phone and email and then the information is written on a Parent Contact Log. Parents will be called at least 2 times within each nine weeks period.
- Parents will be sent letters every two weeks on Wednesdays to update them about events at the school and additional information.
- There is a Parent Communication Board in the front lobby of the school. Calendar information, updates, and other school information are posted on the board.
- Parent Meetings will take place every nine weeks to ensure that parents are updated have a voice within the school and with the school.
- There is a School Parent Committee at 6th Grade Academy. Parents have an active part in the decision making of the school in the areas of academics, activities, student materials, budgeting, fieldtrips, fundraising, staffing, celebrations and culture of the school.
- There is a suggestion box in the front office. Parents have an opportunity to make suggestions anonymously or by name.
- School information is posted and updated on the school website.
- There is an open door policy at the school that allows parents an opportunity to make suggestions and express concerns to the principal, school leaders, teachers, or other staff members.



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Parent Interest Surveys

At 6th Grade Academy we use surveys for the parent regarding his or her interest concerning volunteering in the school and in his or her child's education. We use the surveys to create activities for your campus and also to provide resources for our 6th Grade Campus and store them in our **VOLUNTEER RESOURCE BOOK**. We also create a separate Parent Volunteer guide for events from volunteer enrollment forms.

