

South Side School District

Parental Engagement Plan

2018-2019

Goal1: South Side School foster effective parent and family engagement strategies and support partnerships among school, parents, and the community to improve student achievement.

1. Develop and disseminate district parental involvement policy.
2. Conduct an annual meeting in the spring to update policy for next year's Title I, Part A program.
3. Coordinate parental involvement activities with those of other programs such as Arkansas Better Chance program, and Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters and State-run preschool programs. There is a parental involvement center located in the ABC building. Parents of preschoolers are asked to be involved in the planning of parental involvement activities.
4. Establish parental involvement contact person at each of the Title I, Part A schools. The district and elementary contact person for Title I is Kelly Leonard.
5. Conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of the parental involvement policy. Each spring, the parental involvement plan will be reviewed and the necessary changes that need to be made to meet the current needs of our students and parents will be revised.
6. Develop district parental involvement committee to create a parental involvement policy and implement parental involvement activities as well as disseminate information to the community to promote parental involvement in the Title I, Part A schools. South Side district and elementary has a developed committee for parental involvement. These committees disseminate information to the community through the school marquee, the school website, the weekly menu sent home to students, Facebook and twitter, and information is also sent through the local newspapers and radio stations.
7. South Side School ensures that parents of children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have the same access as other parents including information in a language and form they can understand. We have a licensed ELL specialist on staff to help parents and students with limited English proficiency.
8. Involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under ESSA

Goal 2: The district will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental engagement by doing the following:

1. South Side School is a small campus in which all schools (preschool, elementary, and high school) are all located in one location. Most activities are done on a district wide level with administrators in attendance. The administration is actively involved in the parental involvement process.

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

3. The Parental Involvement Committee will schedule parent involvement meetings throughout the school year to introduce parents to services and programs. Supplies and materials for these programs will be purchased for both the high school and elementary school to aid in promoting parental involvement.

4. -Ensure, to the extent possible, that information is sent home in a language and form parents can understand. South Side School has a licensed ESL Coordinator on staff that is available to translate all information into a language parents can understand.

5. Provide a copy of the school policy at each school for parents to view as well as provide a copy to each parent.

6. Monitor each Title I, Part A school to ensure that each school performs the following tasks:

Develop parental involvement policy.

Offer flexible meeting times.

Provide information to parents about the school's program, include parent information guide.

Develop and use the Title I School-Parent Compact.

7. Provide training for parents in working with their child to improve academic achievement, to include training Home Access order to have real-time access to their child's attendance and achievement. South Side School has a phone notification system that goes to all the district parents. The school also uses e-school so that the parents have access to their students' grades. The faculty and parents work together increase literacy skills through family literacy nights. South Side also hosts a family literacy and math night for parents and students. To better provide parents with information, there are informational tables set up at school functions. The tables have information about parental involvement, tutoring, and any other relevant information at the time.

8. Reinforce parenting skills to support the acquisition of academic skills and their application in real-life situations for parent use.

9. Encourage parents to visit/volunteer at school by assisting staff in developing volunteer opportunities as well as training staff to encourage and build volunteer efforts.

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

11. Convene annual school meeting to inform parents of their school's participation in the development of the parental involvement policy and their right to be involved.

Goal 3: The South Side School District will build the school's capacity for strong parental engagement through the following methods:

1. Provide information to participating parents 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 engagement groups at each school. South Side School District supports the development of the local PTSO and booster clubs for band, sports and academic clubs.
3. Encourage the formation of partnerships between schools and local businesses that includes roles for parents.
4. Provide resources for parents 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.
5. Involve parents through an annual survey to improve school effectiveness. Surveys will be online and computers will be set up for parents at Parent/Teacher Conferences. Needs assessments surveys are also sent out for parental input for Title I programs, the Gifted and Talented Program and the Special Education Program.
6. Approve reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities.
7. Provide any reasonable support for parental involvement at the request of participating Title I, Part A schools. South Side School promotes a positive interaction between home and school and encourages parental involvement in their students' education and establishes the policies and procedures that will govern parental involvement and the Title I Schoolwide Program.

Goal 4: The South Side School District will conduct, with the involvement of parents, ongoing evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement plan as it relates to strategies for increasing parental participation and identifying barriers to greater participation by:

1. Surveying parents annually, including questions to identify barriers to parental involvement. **Surveys will be online and computers will be set up at each Parent-Teacher Conferences for parents to complete surveys. Each parent is asked to fill out a survey containing questions about parental involvement activities to provide feedback for the parental involvement committee. This information is used to evaluate current activities and plan future parental involvement activities.**
2. Provide an opportunity for the parents to assist in the development of the evaluation procedures, including analysis of data collected. The Parental Engagement Committee consists of parents, teachers, administrators and community members, therefore, parents are involved in the evaluation procedures, and analysis of data collected.
3. Develop procedures for collecting parent 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 evaluation process to:
 - Make recommendations to each participating school for parental involvement policy revision.
 - Provide suggestions for designing school improvement policies, as they relate to parental involvement. The Parental Engagement Committee meets each fall to review surveys fill out by parents. The committee uses the information from these surveys to help with the planning of the parental involvement activities for the year.
5. Develop and disseminate an annual parent activity evaluation report to share with parents, staff and the community. **A report of the Parental Engagement Committee is provided by the school and is given each year in the fall at the school's public meeting. A sign-in sheet is kept to document attendance. An agenda is provided that includes: Goals for the program, the rights of parents to be involved in the planning, review and revision of parent programs. A copy of the plan is made available to all parents and is also placed on the schools website.**

Goal 5: The South side School district will involve parents in the joint development of the district Title I Application under section 1112 by using the following procedures:

1. Recruit parents to serve on district ACSIP (School Improvement Plan) committee to develop the Title I Application. Parents currently serve on the School Improvement planning committees.
2. Recruit parents for a district Parent Advisory Committee
3. Encourage the formation of partnerships between the district and local businesses that includes roles for parents.
4. Involve parents through an annual survey to improve district effectiveness.