



Mount Ida School District

District Parent and Family Engagement Plan Summary 2022-2023

What is Parent and Family Engagement?

Parent and family engagement is the participation of parents and family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication regarding the student's academic learning and regarding other school activities. Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) describes the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools to involve parents and family members in the child's education. Title I, Part A provides for practical parent and family engagement at every level of the program. Parent and family participation is not a new concept; however, the type of participation has certainly changed. Older federal and state laws emphasized parent involvement. Involvement focused on parents and family members attending events and receiving information. While involvement is still important, these laws have shifted to emphasize engagement. Engagement promotes opportunities for parents and family members to identify needs, to set goals, and to make plans alongside school personnel. When school personnel are showing and telling parents and families, that is involvement. Parent and family engagement should provide opportunities for each to play an integral, active role as full partners in the child's education. Whenever appropriate, schools should include parents and families in decision-making, include them as members of advisory committees, and include them in the development and implementation of the district and school plans. The five sections of Mount Ida's District Parent and Family Engagement Plan are summarized on the next page. Additional details are available on the district website at <https://www.mountidaschools.com>

1. Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives

The district involves parents in the development of the District's Parent & Family Engagement Plan. Plans are submitted annually to the Arkansas Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The plan is also available on the Mount Ida School District website. The plan is also

available in print upon request. A survey is sent out each year to parents requesting information on their specific needs.

2. Building Staff Capacity through Training and Technical Assistance

Personnel receive professional development that includes the value and contributions from parents, how to reach out and communicate with parents, how to implement and coordinate parent programs, and how to build relationships between parents and the school. District personnel provide technical assistance to parents and other supports to jointly develop Parent & Family Engagement plans.

3. Building Parent Capacity

Each campus ensures parents understand the challenging academic standards including the state and local academic assessments. Each year, there is a Title I, Part A meeting and all parents are invited to attend. Parent-teacher conferences are held four times a year to discuss student's progress. In addition, parents and teachers can request a meeting at any time to review student's progress. Communication between parents and the school is shared through social media, school messenger, the district website, and handouts that are sent home.

4. Reservation and Evaluation

The Parent & Family Engagement committee for each campus determines how the allocations for parent involvement will be spent. A needs assessment and survey are completed annually. Based on the outcome of the survey, needs are identified. This helps to develop a more effective Parent & Family Engagement plan for the following school year.

5. Coordination

The district coordinates with local churches, food pantry, and other clubs and organizations to assist families with other needs outside of the school. These organizations can assist families with food, clothing, and additional costs. Our District has a Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator. Parents are encouraged to reach out to each campus for assistance.