



De Queen Junior High School School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

The De Queen School District Board of Education, administrators, and staff recognize that a child's education is a responsibility shared by school and family during the entire period the child spends in school. To support the goal of the school district to educate all students effectively, the schools and parents must work as knowledgeable partners.

Although the district's families and parents are diverse in culture, language, and needs, they share the school's commitment to the educational success of their children. This school district in collaboration with families and parents shall establish programs and practices that enhance school, parent, and family engagement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families.

The goal of De Queen Junior High School is to provide a high quality education to all students. We know that engaging parents is essential to improve student achievement. Therefore, we will foster and support active parent involvement and participation in promoting the social, emotional, and academic growth of children.

This document represents a joint development of De Queen Junior High School's parents, families, students, school staff, alumni, and communities. The following outline complies with the legal requirements of Every Student Succeeds Act Public Law 114-95 Section 1112, Local Education Agency Plans: Section 1114 Schoolwide Programs: and Section 1116, Parent and Family Engagement.

Jointly Developed School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

- The parent/family committee will meet at the end of each school year to review the current plan. Updates and revisions will be made during the meeting. Upon completion of the edits, the plan will be sent to each committee member for approval.
- The parent/family committee will be selected based on volunteers. The committee will consist of diverse cultural, ethnic, and racial backgrounds.
- Comments and suggestions will be forwarded to the district parent/family representative (Paul Shelton) if the plan is not satisfactory to parents.
- Parents may request meetings through the school principal (Bill Huddleston) or Parent/Family Engagement facilitator (Sue Smith).
- The committee will be made up of parents, alumni, and community stakeholders.

Communications

- Parents are given "Informational Packets" in English/Spanish, which contains Overview of Parent Involvement Plan, Community resource list, School contact information, Parenting Tip Materials, Parent Center Notification, Volunteer Survey, and Needs Assessment Survey.
- The District hosts a website to house information, events, announcements, and pictures from each school.

- Parents can visit the Home Access Center (HAC), a secure site for viewing a student's grades online 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.
- One Call Alert notification system is used to contact parents about upcoming events, notices, and reminders.
- The District Calendar will be sent home at the beginning of the year during registration and is available online.
- Teachers routinely contact parents on an individual basis to communicate about their student's progress.
- The school will provide to parents progress reports at 5 weeks and report cards every 9 weeks with information regarding their child's academic progress and upcoming classroom and school events. One Alert phone messages notify parents prior to the report distribution.
- The school will offer parents a special workshop each year on the school's approach to school improvement, if applicable.

Coordination of Services

- Lions Club donates glasses to students of need.
- Southwest Arkansas Migrant Cooperative heads our migrant program.
- DeQueen-Mena Educational Service Cooperative provides a variety of services and training for parents, students, and teachers.
- The Cossatot College Adult ESL Education teacher serves as a contact to the school in providing information to Pilgrim's Pride Adult ESL students as needed.
- The Sevier County Library helps support student learning through Accelerated Reading by providing resources.
- Sevier County Extension Office presents water quality programs for the students.
- Local physicians donate their time to provide physicals and immunizations.
- Dr. Walker's office collected and distributed school supplies.
- The school holds various fund raising activities during the year to raise money to donate to the Race for the Cure and Disaster Relief and Red Cross.
- The Southwest Ambulance Service conducts safety programs for our students and community.
- The DeQueen Bee Newspaper, KDQN, and ED88.7 publish announcements and articles for the school.
- Area churches provide school supplies and various resources to families.

Building Capacity of Parents

- A minimum of two, parent committee meetings will be held (fall & spring) and two parent teacher-conferences will be held (October 17, 2019 and March 19, 2020).
- Parents will be provided online resources and paper resources in the information packet to assist students with understanding the curriculum.
- State assessment scores will be sent home to parents during the first nine weeks of the school year.
- Parents will be provided with information about state and local student. The ACT Aspire will be given in the late spring each year and STAR test will be administered three times during the school year. Science will take ACT Aspire interim twice yearly.
- The school website provides online resources for assisting students with homework.

- Parents, students, and school personnel serve on the district wellness committee and assist in designing healthy school menus choices.
- A parent framework and toolkit are available on the Parents, Teachers, and Administrators webpages at <http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov> or can be accessed by going to <http://bit.ly/EngagementMattersAR>.

Building Capacity of School Staff

- 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 understanding of effective parental and family engagement strategies. No fewer than three (3) hours of professional development for administrators designed to enhance understanding of effective parent and family engagement strategies and the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental/family participation.
- Parent facilitators will provide parent engagement training to their building faculty.
- Faculty members are trained in the following:
 - Parents role in assisting student learning
 - Parental contributions to the learning environment
 - Working with parents as equal partners
 - Coordinating parent programs and building ties between home and school
 - Welcoming parents into the school
 - Using language the parents are comfortable with and understands
 - Responding to parent requests
 - Recognizing that a parent is a full partner and the school's process for resolving parent concerns

The De Queen Junior High School Parent and Family Engagement Plan is a comprehensive map for how families can be actively engaged in their child's education. This living document will be reviewed and updated annually based upon data collected from family and stakeholders. The De Queen Junior High School Parent and Family Engagement Plan was jointly developed with and approved by the Parent and Family Engagement Committee.

The Committee includes the following:

- Sue Smith, School Parent and Family Facilitator
- William Huddleston, Principal
- Jeff Holcombe, Assistant Principal, Parent, Alumnus
- Johnathan Helms, Community Leader, Parent, Alumnus
- Layton Neal, Parent
- Eric Angeles, Parent, Alumnus
- Mackey Hibbs, Parent, Alumnus
- Anita Simmons, Teacher
- Wanda Smith, Teacher, Alumna
- Wendy Victoriano, Student Council President