

OUACHITA RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT
ACORN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

***PARENT and FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT PLAN***

2018/2019

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT:

Ouachita River School District exists to provide a safe, caring environment where everyone learns and grows.

DISTRICT VISION STATEMENT:

Ouachita River School District's vision is for each person in our system to find their purpose and use that purpose to impact the world.

District: Ouachita River School District

School: Acorn Elementary School

School Year: 2018-2019

Parent Involvement Coordinator: Linda Heath

Committee Members: Eric Goss, Community Member

Davelynn Lane, Principal

Judy Newcomb, Academic Coach

Jerusha Tedder, Parent

Margo Kimp, Grandparent, Alumni Advisor

Linda Heath, Coordinator

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Acorn Elementary, a school wide Title I Program, recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family during the entire time the child spends in school. To support the goal of the school to educate all students effectively, the school and parents must work as knowledgeable partners.

Acorn Elementary School's Parent and Family Engagement Plan shall include programs and practices that enhance parental involvement and reflect the specific needs of all students and their families.

Acorn Elementary acknowledges that parents play an integral role in assisting student learning. To help the parents, students and schools team and partner together to best assure the academic successes of the students, "Parent and Family Engagement Meetings" will be scheduled. All meetings, including Open House and Parent/Teacher Conferences will be advertised in the local newspapers, on the local radio station, the school website, letters sent home with students and on Facebook to welcome parents and/or guardians.

The district will designate two (2) Parent/Teacher Conferences each school year. The dates for the 2018-2019 school year are October 18th and March 14th. Other planned meetings and workshops are as follows: August 14th, Smart Core meeting, Title I Public Meeting, and Open House; September 11, District and School Level Planning Meeting; September 26th, Parent Involvement Plan/Title I Planning/District ACSIP Meeting; April 18, Middle School Transition Night; May 2nd, Parent Involvement Plan Review, Professional Development Plan Review,

and ACSIP Peer Review; Spring of 2019 Title I Planning Meeting and Closing the Achievement Gap Meeting; and PTO meetings the first Monday of each month. A Literacy Night will be provided in the fall semester and a Math Night will be provided in the spring semester.

Acorn Elementary School shall coordinate parent involvement opportunities with area preschool programs to ensure a smooth transition into kindergarten. The contact person for this is Judy Newcomb and she can be reached at (479)394-4833.

Ouachita River School District shall provide no less than two (2) hours of professional development opportunities for teachers every four (4) years, which may be included in the minimum number of hours required, designed to enhance understanding of effective parental involvement strategies.

Ouachita River School District shall provide no fewer than two (2) hours of professional development opportunities for administrators every four (4) years, which may be included in the minimum number of hours required, 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.

Teachers and staff members will work with parents to refine the Title I Student/Teacher/Parent/Principal's Compact. The compact will outline how each stakeholder shares the responsibility for improving student academic achievement. The compact will be completed at the beginning of each year and placed on file at the school.

Acorn Elementary School will involve parents in the planning processes of Title I, Title II, Title IVA and other such programs.

An alumni advisory board will be created to provide advice and guidance for school improvement.

Acorn Elementary School and Ouachita River School District shall designate at least one (1) certified staff member to serve as a parent facilitator to organize meaningful training for staff and parents promoting and encouraging a welcoming atmosphere to parental involvement in the school and to undertake efforts to ensure that parental participation is recognized as an asset to the district. The contact person is Linda Heath and can be reached at 243-0396.

To support responsible parenting, the principal will designate an area to be used as the Parent Center. Parenting books, magazines, educational information, and other useful materials will be provided. The location of the Parent Resource Center will be announced annually at the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Meeting and the Public Meeting.

Informational packets will be developed in a language and format every parent can understand, printed and distributed to parents at the beginning of the school year. The packets will provide parents with a student handbook, schedule of all events, how they may obtain information about the status and progress of their children, volunteer work, parent engagement plans, and how they may become involved in the education process of their children.

The process for parents to follow to resolve concerns will be placed in the Student/Parent Handbook, distributed to all parents, and made available in the school office, at the annual Title I Public Meeting.

Ouachita River School District, Acorn Elementary School, parents and community will develop a parental involvement plan addressing the needs of the students and their parents. The plan will be reviewed and updated annually. The revised and/or updated Parent Involvement Plan will be available in the building principal's office or can be viewed on the school web-site.

To welcome parents into the school and to seek parental support and assistance, the school or district shall not have any school policies or procedures that would discourage a parent from visiting the school. A parent volunteer survey will be sent home and a volunteer resource book, listing the interests and availability of volunteers, will be made available for school staff members' use.

To encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect his or her child and family, the school and/or district shall sponsor seminars to inform parents of high school students how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selection, career planning, and preparation for post-secondary opportunities. Other activities that the school determines will encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect his or her child and family will be offered.

Acorn Elementary School will hold its annual Title I Parent and Family Engagement Meeting at flexible times to encourage parent attendance. Information to be provided at the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Meeting shall include Title I programs, curriculum, assessments, proficiency levels and school academic status levels.

For questions contact:

Linda Heath

Acorn Elementary School

479-243-0396