

Arkansas Indistar
School Engagement Plan

Accepted: This form has been reviewed and little or no revisions need to be made. Please make any suggested revisions (if needed) and go to Submissions tab to submit.

Page 1 of 1

Please read over the updated form closely. Note the new Assurances section allows you to confirm practices that are *required* but do not need further elaboration. In the response fields, please include links to additional information that can help support your story as you answer the guiding questions.

1: Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives

Describe how the School works with parents and families to develop and review relevant plans, policies, and strategies related to engagement.

Guiding Questions

- **1.1:** *How does the School - in collaboration with parents - establish an engagement plan that reflects the specific academic improvement needs of the School, and that includes programs and practices that enhance engagement and address the specific engagement needs of students and their families?*
[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(a)]
- **1.2:** *What efforts have been made to ensure adequate representation of parents and families of participating children in the process (Title I families)?*
[ESSA § 1116(c)(3)]

Marion Junior High School will jointly develop/revise with parents and community representatives the school parent and family engagement plan.

The plan will be disseminated to the parents of Marion Junior High students as well as be made available to all members of the Marion School District local community.

Parents will be directly involved with the development of the school parent and family engagement plans by being allowed to volunteer as a member of the parent and family engagement committee. Parents will then be invited to attend scheduled meetings for parent and family engagement. Parents will be asked for input in the review and periodic updates of the current parent and family engagement plan.

As a collaborative piece the Marion Junior High School parent and family engagement committee will be given an opportunity to share suggestions for improvement of the current parent and family engagement plan that will reflect specific academic improvement needs of Marion Junior High School and will include programs and practices that enhance parental involvement and addresses the specific parental involvement needs of students and families. The jointly developed parent and family engagement plan will evolve in an organized, ongoing and timely way with a small representative sample of parents of seventh, eighth, and ninth grade students in addition to the Marion Junior High school principal, instructional facilitator, and parent facilitator.

The parent and family engagement plan will be reviewed, updated, and potentially at the minimum of once a school year with the goal of creating an educationally sound and satisfactory document for Marion Junior High school parents, students and staff.

A district survey from the Title I office will be sent to parents during the last month of school. Opportunities for parent and community input such as the need for regular meetings, barriers that limit parent and family involvement, etc. will be addressed. This district survey will be shared with each school campus and will include all comments made by those who completed it.

2: Communication

Describe how the School will communicate with and distribute information to parents and families.

Guiding Questions

- **2.1:** How does the School distribute an informational packet appropriate for the age and grade of each child annually, ensuring to include:
 - description of the engagement program
 - recommended roles for parents, students, teacher, and the School
 - ways for a family to get involved
 - survey regarding volunteer interests
 - schedule of activities planned throughout the school year
 - regular, two-way, and meaningful system for parents/teachers to communicate
 [A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(3)(B)(1)]
- **2.2:** How will the School ensure information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is provided to parents in a format and in a language that parents can understand (to the extent practicable)?
 - how is relevant information provided in a variety of ways? (For example, paper copies made available, as well as social media posts, website links, parent apps, etc.?)
 [ESSA § 1116(e)(5)]
- **2.3:** How does the School offer flexible opportunities for meetings with families?
 [ESSA § 1116(c)(2)]

Marion Junior High School will make the parent and family engagement policy available on the school district website.

The plan will be distributed to parents electronically for those who prefer to access school information through the Marion Junior High School Website.

The school will also share information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities through electronic means via school district website and the school phone system messenger as well as various other communication modes like parent conference nights, telephone conference, letters mailed home, and paperwork sent home by students in a language that all parents of participating children can understand.

Transportation, childcare or home visits may also be allowed for services related to parent and family engagement if funds are available.

The parent and family committee will discuss the design of an informational packet to detail the schools parental involvement program, the recommended role of the parent, student, teacher, and school, ways for the parent to become involved in the school, a survey for the parent regarding volunteering at the school, activities throughout the year to encourage parental involvement, and systems to allow the parents and teachers to communicate in a regular two-way, and meaningful manner with the child's teacher and the school principal.

Parents will be asked to sign and return a form acknowledging receipt of the summary of parent and family engagement plan from the student handbook.

There will also be a district wide annual meeting held at a convenient time for parents of participating children.

Marion Junior High School will encourage all parents of participating children to attend the annual district meeting in an effort to inform parents of timely information about school programs that would promote parent and family engagement within the Marion School District system.

Marion Junior High School will begin developing a Parent Organization that will meet once a month to discuss ongoing improvements. This group will also discuss needs for our students and school. This will be another opportunity to get more input from our parents and help disseminate more information out to the public.

3: Building Staff Capacity

Describe activities that will be used with School staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners.

Guiding Questions

3.1: How does the School build staff capacity to work with parents as equal partners? This may include workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, and online resources that will be used to ensure ALL School staff (including teachers, specialized instructional personnel, principals, and other School leaders) are aware of:

- the value and utility of contributions of parents [Title I schools]
- how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners [Title I schools]
- how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between home and the School [Title I schools]
- how to respond to parent requests for parent and family engagement activities [Title I schools]
- that parents play an integral role in assisting student learning [all schools]
- how to welcome parents into the School and seek parental support and assistance [all schools]
- the School's process for resolving parent concerns as outlined in the School handbook, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions [all schools]

[ESSA § 1116(e)(3;14); A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(5-7)]

Teachers participate in several days of professional development training throughout the year that offers strategies to include parents in student academic success. This professional development will teach staff the importance of communication with families and how to coordinate parent programs to build ties between home and school.

The results of our district wide survey gives pertinent detailed information regarding parent view of academic quality, the improvements of the school and the parent involvement plan. All the questions on the survey yielded answers that help clarify the need for staff to communicate in a language that parents can understand and recognize that a parent is a full partner with the school.

Teachers will be further reminded that families make valuable contributions to the educational process and should be viewed as equal partners in the children's learning experience.

4: Building Parent Capacity

Describe how the School provides opportunities to build parents' capacity to play a role in their children's academic success. This may include conducting workshops, conferences, classes, online resources, Academic Parent-Teacher Team meetings or providing equipment or other materials.

Guiding Questions

- **4.1:** *How does the School provide timely information about the following:*
 - *a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the School*
 - *the forms of State and Local academic assessments used to measure student progress, including alternate assessments*
 - *the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards students are expected to meet*

[ESSA § 1116(c)(4)(B)]
- **4.2:** *How does the School provide assistance to parents in understanding the following:*
 - *the requirements of Title I, Part A*
 - *how to monitor their child's progress*
 - *how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.*

[ESSA § 1116(e)(1)]
- **4.3:** *What types of materials and training does the School provide to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement? This may include:*
 - *literacy training*
 - *technology training, including education about copyright piracy and safe practices*
 - *resources that describe or assist with the child's curriculum*
 - *other activities such as workshops, conferences, online resources like tutorials or webinars, and any equipment or other materials, including parent resource centers*

[ESSA § 1116(e)(2)]
- **4.4:** *Involve parents of students at all grade levels in a variety of roles, including without limitation:*
 - *involvement in the education of their children*
 - *volunteer activities*
 - *learning activities and support classroom instruction*
 - *participation in School decisions*
 - *collaboration with the community*
 - *development of School goals and priorities*
 - *evaluating the effectiveness of the School-level Improvement Plan*

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(1); ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.03]
- **4.5:** *How does the School promote and support responsible parenting? The School shall, as funds are available:*
 - *purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative material regarding responsible parenting through the School library, advertise the current selection, and give parents an opportunity to borrow the materials for review*
 - *Create parent centers*

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(4)(A)]
- **4.6:** *How does the School provide instruction to parents on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation:*
 - *role play and demonstration by trained volunteers*
 - *the use of and access to Department of Education website tools for parents*
[<https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov> (<https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/>)]
 - *assistance with nutritional meal planning*

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(5)(B)(ii)(a-d)]

Parent involvement meeting will be held at which parents will be given information about student learning frameworks, student assessment with interpretations of results, and parent expectations for the educational process at Marion Junior High School.

During our school's open house/back to school night, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at Marion Junior High School will be shared in a format that all parents can understand. The achievement levels of the State academic student standards will be promoted by staff. During Professional Learning Communities (PLCs),

teachers will discuss the curriculum frameworks, implementation of these frameworks and lesson planning.

Parent-Teacher Conference nights will be used to explain academic assessments, student progress and how parents can monitor their students' progress through the Home Access Center.

Parents will have access to parent resources in the school counselor's office, in the school libraries and the school website.

Students and parents will be engaged together in the decisions that affect course selections, career planning and preparation for post secondary opportunities.

Parents will attend educational nights that provide information on how to help their students in various subject areas using best practice strategies.

5: Coordination

Describe how the School will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners, including alumni, to provide additional supports, services, and resources to families..

Guiding Questions

- **5.1:** *How does the School investigate and utilize community resources in the instructional program?*
[ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 5.06]
- **5.2:** *How does the School coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs? Some examples include:*
 - *public preschool programs such as Head Start*
 - *organizations/activities to help students transition to elementary, middle, high, and postsecondary schools or careers*
 - *wraparound services that allow families to send their children to school ready and able to focus on learning*[ESSA §1116(e)(4)]
- **5.3:** *In what ways does the School enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Association or organization and ensure leaders of said organization will be included in appropriate decisions?*
[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(8)(B)(ii)]

The Marion Junior High School parent and family engagement committee will discuss current practices to involve organizations, business, and community partners with the instructional program of the school to provide additional support and resources to families, such as responsible parenting.

Marion Junior High School will begin developing a PTA or a similar organization to foster parental and community involvement.

Marion Junior High School will contact local businesses to come and share information about future career opportunities through various classes.

Marion Junior High School will continue to foster an educational relationship with the local college ASU Mid-South to provide informative meetings with students regarding opportunities for students to attend programs on the ASU Mid-South campus. The investments of ASU Mid-South college and Marion Junior High school in each other will build opportunities for the instructional programs at each institution. A Marion Junior High School and ASU Mid-South partnership will further encourage more parental support for students as they enroll in programs of study related to career and college readiness interest.

6: Annual Title I Meeting *(Title I schools)*

Describe the details regarding the Annual Title I meeting used to inform parents of the requirements of Title I, the School's participation, and the parents' rights to be involved.

Guiding Questions

- **6.1:** *How and when (month/year) does the School conduct the Annual Title I meeting, ensuring that parents are informed of the following? (*Include a link to the detailed agenda, meeting minutes, and/or slide deck for this year's Annual Title I Meeting, if available.)*
 - *the requirements of Title I and the School's participation*
 - *the parents' rights under Title I (The Right to Know Teacher Qualifications, Right to Request Meetings)*[ESSA § 1116(c)(1)]

The District's Annual Title I meeting is scheduled for May, 2023. Marion Junior High School is not a Title I school.

7: School-Parent Compact (Title I schools)

Describe the process School will follow to jointly develop with parents a School-Parent Compact as required under Title I, Part A.

Guiding Questions

- **7.1:** *How does the School jointly develop a School-Parent Compact which does the following:*
 - *Outlines how parents, the entire School staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement*
 - *Addresses the importance of regular two-way, meaningful communication through:*
 - *conferences (no fewer than 2 each year)*
 - *frequent reports on progress*
 - *reasonable access to staff*
 - *opportunities to volunteer*
 - *observation of classroom activities*
 - **7.2:** *How do families access the compact in order to understand the shared responsibility for improved student academic achievement?*
 - *Including parent-teacher conferences in elementary Schools, at least annually*
 - *Include a link or insert the language of the compact to demonstrate this requirement has been met.*
- [ESSA § 1116(d)]*
- [ESSA § 1116(d)(2)(A)]*

To jointly develop School-parent compact plans with parents, the parent and family engagement committee will work together to define a school-parent compact.

The committee will share in their responsibility of working together to create a school-parent compact that communicates the need for continuously improved student academic achievement as well as two-way dialogue between parents, teachers, and students to build and develop a foundation to help children attain the state academic standards and to involve parents in multiple roles.

To encourage communication with parents the Marion Junior High School will continue to have meaningful interaction between staff, students and parents during the school year with the following:

At a minimum two parent and teacher conferences held a year

Weekly reports on progress through home access center for participating parents and students school messenger for participating parents

- letters home
- telephone calls
- remind 101 for participating parents
- Family Engagement Nights
- encourage staff to use volunteer surveys to compile a resource book in efforts to use parents in a variety of roles
- Parent Teacher Organization

8: Reservation of Funds (Title I schools)

Describe how the School uses Title I, Part A funds set-aside for parent and family engagement programs and activities.

Guiding Questions

- **8.1:** *If the School is a recipient of set aside funds for parent and family engagement (as part of receiving a Title I, Part A allocation greater than \$500,000):*
 - *How is the School spending those funds?*
 - *How does the School determine the priority of how funds are spent?*
 - *Who is involved in determining that?*
 - **8.2:** *How does the School provide opportunities for parents and family members to be involved in providing input into how the funds are used?*
- [ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(A)]*
- [ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(B); ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(C); ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(D)(i-v)]*

The Director of Federal Programs reserves at least 1% of the district's Title I yearly allocation specifically for parent and family engagement activities. Of these reserved funds, 90% or more goes directly to the schools, with priority given to high-needs schools. Parents and family are encouraged to attend the yearly meeting to discuss how these funds are allocated, to ensure the funded activities are in line with each school's plan. Parent and Family Engagement Plans are evaluated yearly to help guide future activities, increase effective parental involvement and reduce barriers that hinder parental involvement. The Parent and Family Engagement Plan will be reviewed and updated yearly. Plans will be posted annually by August 1. Marion Junior High School is not a Title I school.

Assurances

Please read the following statements closely. By checking these boxes, the School understands the legal requirements and will meet them accordingly.

- ☒ **A.1:**The School understands that annually by August 1, the public School's Engagement Plan shall be developed, or reviewed and updated.

[ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.02.3]

- ☒ **A.2:**The School understands that the following must be made available to families and the local community on the School or District website no later than August 1st:

- The School Engagement Plan
- A parent-friendly explanation of the School and District's Engagement Plan
- The informational packet
- Contact information for the parent facilitator designated by the School.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a); ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.02.4]]

- ☒ **A.3:**The School understands that a parent-friendly summary/explanation of the Engagement Plan should be included in the current student handbook.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a); ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.02]

- ☒ **A.4:**The School understands its obligation for ensuring professional development requirements related to parent and family engagement are met and that records are maintained accordingly. (2 hours every 4 years with 2022 being a required year)

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1703(a); A.C.A. § 6-17-709; Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts July 2020 Standard 4-G.1 Professional Development (D/C)]

- ☒ **A.5:**The School understands its obligation to obtain signatures for each parent acknowledging receipt of the District's Engagement Plan summary/explanation.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)(3)(B)]

- ☒ **A.6:**The School Principal understands their obligation to designate and pay a licensed staff member to serve as Parent Facilitator:

- to help organize meaningful training for staff and parents,
- to promote and encourage a welcoming atmosphere, and
- to undertake efforts to ensure that engagement is recognized as an asset to the School.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(c)(1)]

- ☒ **A.7:**The School understands its obligation to encourage school staff to use volunteer surveys to compile a volunteer resource book..

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(6)(B)(ii)]

- ☒ **A.8:**The School understands its obligation to conduct no fewer than two parent-teacher conferences per school year.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(3)(B)(ii)]

- ☒ **A.9:**The School understands its obligation to incorporate the Engagement Plan into the School Improvement Plan.

[ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.02.2]

- ☒ **A.10:**The School understands its obligation to schedule regular parent involvement meetings at which parents are given a report on the state of the School and an overview of:

- what students will be learning
- how students will be assessed
- The informational packet
- what a parent should expect for his or her child's education
- how a parent can assist and make a difference in his or her child's education.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(5)(B)(i)(a-d)]

- ☒ **A.11:**Any School serving high school students understands its obligation to educate parents about their role in decisions affecting course selection, career planning, and preparation for postsecondary opportunities.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(7)(B)(ii)]

- ☒ **A.12:**The School understands its obligation to welcome parents into the School, and more specifically, not have any school policies or procedures that would discourage a parent from visiting the School or from visiting a child's classrooms.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(6)(B)]

- ☒ **A.13:**The School understands that all Title I, Part A funded engagement activities and strategies should remain consistent with all information set forth in this parent and family engagement plan.

[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(D)]

- ☒ **A.14:**The School understands its obligation to submit to the State any comments from parents who deem the Title I Schoolwide Plan unsatisfactory. These comments can be sent to ade.engagementmatters@ade.arkansas.gov
[ESSA § 1116(b)(4)]
- ☒ **A.15:**The School understands its obligation, if requested by parents, to provide opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
[ESSA § 1116(c)(4)(C)]

References

State

- Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-1701 et seq.
(<https://drive.google.com/file/d/10BITKmbAug4tJidUAqt3CjyBVLxqvfcZ/view>)
- Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Parental Involvement Plans and Family and Community Engagement
(https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Files/20201102114851_FINAL_Parental_Involvement_Plans_and_Family_and_Community_Er)

Federal

- Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by Every Student Succeeds Act, 114 P.L. 95, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6312, 6318, 6320
(<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gLCfooJPV5yJHMvnTGmcKRiTThzKwGT9/view>)

School Name:	Marion Junior High School
School Engagement Facilitator Name:	Krystal Randle & Raymond Whiteside
Plan Revision/Submission Date:	7/29/2022
District Level Reviewer Name, Title:	Julie Coveny, Director of Federal Programs
District Level Approval Date:	8/1/2022

Committee Members, Role

(Select "Repeat" to open more entry fields to add additional team members)

First Name	Last Name	Role (Teacher, Staff, Parent, Student, or Community Member)
Trameka	Montgomery	Parent
Kelsey	Durmeier	Parent
Chiquita	Harden	Parent
Krystal	Randle	SIS/Parent Facilitator
Raymond	Whiteside	SIS/Parent Facilitator
Lisa	Lovely	Counselor

Committee Members, Role

(Select "Repeat" to open more entry fields to add additional team members)

First Name	Last Name	Role (Teacher, Staff, Parent, Student, or Community Member)
Debbie	Jackson	Counselor
James	Scott	Principal

(Find additional guidance on the DESE Parent and Family Engagement Requirements (<https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Offices/public-school-accountability/federal-programs/parent-and-family-engagement-requirements>) webpage. For any questions about completing this form or meeting legal compliance, please contact the DESE Engagement Unit at ade.engagementmatters@ade.arkansas.gov (mailto:ade.engagementmatters@ade.arkansas.gov) or 501-371-8051.)

District Reviewer Responses

Section 1 - Jointly Developed

- ☐ Changes Required
☒ Compliance is Met
-

Comments:

-Section 2 - Communication

- ☐ Changes Required
☒ Compliance is Met
-

Comments:

Section 3 - Building Staff Capacity

- ☐ Changes Required
☒ Compliance is Met
-

Comments:

Section 4 - Building Parent Capacity

- ☐ Changes Required
☒ Compliance is Met
-

Comments:

Section 5 - Coordination

- ☐ Changes Required
☒ Compliance is Met
-

Comments:

Section 6 - Annual Title I Meeting

- ☐ Changes Required
☒ Compliance is Met
-

Comments:

Section 7 - School-Parent Compact

- ☐ Changes Required
☒ Compliance is Met
-

Comments:

Section 8 - Reservation of Funds

☐ Changes Required

☒ Compliance is Met

Comments:

Accepted: This form has been reviewed and little or no revisions need to be made. Please make any suggested revisions (if needed) and go to Submissions tab to submit.

Close