

Anna Strong Learning Academy Parent and Family Engagement Plan

District Name: Lee County School District

Parent Facilitator Name: Joyce Cleveland

Plan Review Revision Date: July 31, 2020

District Level Reviewer, Title: Charlotte Wade, Parent Coordinator

Committee Members
Lakiya Taylor, Parent
Kellee Farris, parent
Ethel Bonner, parent
Jonaque Jones, Instructional Support
Kandral Stone, Behavior Specialist
Michelle Branch, Principal
Charlotte Wade, Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator



Expectations and Objectives

It is the goal of the family engagement committee to support the school in the implementation and creation of opportunities for academic and personal success to ensure that all students possess 21st Century Competencies such as math, science and physical education. Through parent and community participation, the faculty and staff of Anna Strong Learning Academy will work in collaboration with parents, community members, and stakeholders to create a school environment of trust, respect, cooperation and success for all students and to involve all parents and guardians in educating their children. It is our belief that a child's educational success is a shared responsibility of the school and family of which the school, parents, and the community must work together in a committed partnership to provide support and provide a positive environment that ensures student growth and success. The district will be offering virtual training to parents and guardians to broaden their knowledge on how to assist students during the pandemic.

Jointly Developed

•Anna Strong Learning Academy will provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the development of the school's parent and family engagement plan. The school will include parents to help foster parental and community involvement and activities within the school.

• The school will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the Title I, Part A Program's parent and family engagement efforts through an annual evaluation using a school engagement survey completed by teachers, parents, and school staff. The Title I committee, made up of teachers, parents and school staff, will determine the effectiveness of the parent and family engagement plan and make changes if warranted.

Annual Title I Meeting

Anna Strong Learning Academy will hold an Annual Title I Meeting that must be conducted separately. (It cannot be held in conjunction with any other meetings or activities.)

• The school will conduct an Annual Title I Meeting for parents of the students who participate in the Title I, Part A Program- October, 2020. (Michelle Branch, Principal)

• The school will hold their Annual Title I Meeting separate from any other meetings or activities to ensure that they have ample time to provide a description/explanation of the school curriculum, information on the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and information on proficiency level students are expected to meet. (Michelle Branch, Principal)

• The agenda, sign-in sheet and the minutes for the Annual Title I Meeting will be generated separate from any other events and kept on file. (Michelle Branch ,Principal)

Communications

Anna Strong Learning Academy will make the Parent and Family Engagement Plan available to parents and communicate with parents concerning information about school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities in a format to the extent practicable, and in a language that parents can understand.

- A parent-friendly summary/explanation of the parent and family engagement plan will be available online through the school and district's website. <https://lcsd1.org/> (Charlotte Wade, Title I Parent Coordinator)
- Printed copies of the Parent and Family Engagement Plan will also be available upon request. Parents will also be able to view the plan in the parent resource center or media center at the school. (Anna Strong Learning Academy Secretaries, Joyce Cleveland, Parent Facilitator)
- Parents may use email and student binders to communicate with members of the staff.
- The school will distribute information packets each year that include general regulations and procedures, survey for volunteer interest, recommended roles for parents/teachers/students/school, suggestions of ways parents can become involved in their child's education, parental involvement and school activities planned for the current school year, and information about the systems in place to allow parents and teachers to communicate.
- The principal shall designate one certified staff member to serve as the school's parent facilitator.
- The school will recognize that communication between home and school should be regular, two-way, and meaningful.
- Parent-teacher conferences will be held in October 2020, and April 2021. The school will provide mid-nine weeks' progress reports each quarter. The school will provide report cards every nine weeks with information regarding their child's academic progress- October 2020, January 2021, March 2021, and June 2021. (Classroom Teachers and Staff)
- The school will use the district website, flyers, newspaper, and radio station to inform parents about school events. (District Website, Trill Share)



School-Parent Compact

Anna Strong Learning Academy will work with parents to create a School-Parent Compact.

- School staff, parents, and students will develop a school-parent-student compact. This compact will outline how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards. All stakeholders will sign the compact.

Reservation of Funds

The Lee County School District will allocate a percentage of the 1% set-aside for parent and family engagement activities to Anna Strong Learning Academy. The school will involve parents and family members of children in the decision about how the funds will be spent. This will be an agenda item at the parent and family engagement committee meetings and at the Annual Title I meeting in October, 2020.

Coordination of Services

Anna Strong Learning Academy will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional support and resources to families.

- The school will encourage appropriate roles for community based organizations in parental engagement activities (Lee County Men of Action, Farmers and Merchant Bank).
- The school shall consider recruiting alumni from the school to create an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement and to take advantage of community resources.

Building Capacity of Parents

Anna Strong Learning Academy will provide opportunities to support parents in helping their student's academic success.

- Meetings will include family literacy and math nights that provide an opportunity for parents and their child to experience the school situation in a positive and helpful manner while school staff may provide any needed assistance or encouragement. (Joyce Cleveland, Parent Facilitator, Classroom Teacher)
- The school will conduct at least two parent/teacher conferences each year. Parents will be given a summary of the student's test scores and an explanation of the interventions teachers are using to assist the child in reaching achievement goals. Parents will be asked to engage in discussion of how they can support these efforts. Parents will also be given suggestions for coordinating school-parent efforts and explanations of homework and grading procedures. (Classroom Teachers)
- The school will send home information concerning the school's involvement with the state's reading initiative and how parents can be involved in supporting the goals of this initiative.
- Provide training sessions to parents for participation as school volunteers. (Joyce Cleveland, Parent Facilitator)
- The school will provide parents with a description and explanation of the assessments used to measure student progress and achievement levels of challenging State academic standards. (School Improvement Specialist Melanie Solomon)
- Provide information to parents on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including and without limitations: the use of and access to the Department of Education website tools for parents, and other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Department of Education. (<http://www.arkansased.gov/>)
- To promote and support responsible parenting, the school shall, as funds are available: Purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials regarding responsible

parenting through the school library, advertise the current selection, and give parents the opportunity to

borrow the materials for review. The school will update the current parent center. (Joyce Cleveland, Parent Facilitator)

- Provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement. (Joyce Cleveland, Parent Facilitator)
- The school will provide a parent resource center at hours that are convenient to parents. The center will be open Monday-Friday from 7:30-4:00. Parents may check out materials, view materials, and use the computer to visit educational websites. Parents will be encouraged to view the Title I Plan located in the parent resource center. A suggestion sheet will also be available for parental input. (Lois Pascal, Library Media Specialist)
- The school will seek volunteers to support the school and students by using surveys and providing information to parents during Open-House, Parent-Teachers Conferences, and newsletters. (Joyce Cleveland, Parent Facilitator, Classroom Teachers)

Building Capacity of School Staff

Anna Strong Learning Academy will provide workshops, conferences, training, webinars, online resources and Academic Parent-Teacher team meetings that will be used with school staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners.

- Teachers will engage in online training for parental involvement through Arkansas Ideas. The State Board of Education's Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and Districts shall require no fewer than two (2) hours of professional development for teachers designed to enhance the understanding of effective parent and family engagement strategies. No fewer than three (3) hours of professional development for administrators 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. (School Leadership, Teachers)

Building Capacity - Discretionary

Anna Strong Learning Academy did not choose to include and Discretionary Components in the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan.

- The school will provide names of parents from students at Anna Strong Learning Academy to participate in the district-level parent and family engagement committee and focus group to provide input on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs. (Charlotte Wade, Title I Parent Coordinator)