



Sylvan Hills Middle School
10001 Johnson Drive
Sherwood, AR 72120
Phone: 501.833.1120

PARENT INVOLVEMENT PLAN

2023-2024

Sylvan Hills Middle School Mission: In partnership with parents, Sylvan Hills Middle School will promote a learning community by implementing the PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) and AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) initiatives, which will help students reach their academic potential and become productive members of society.

In an effort to accomplish the mission of **Sylvan Hills Middle School**, the school is committed to involving teachers, parents/guardians, community members, and students.

Sylvan Hills Middle School has programs, activities, and procedures to encourage involvement of parents/guardians in the school with programs consistent with ACT 319 (ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Plans July 2014). These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents/guardians of participating students.

VOLUNTEER PLAN

Sylvan Hills Middle School encourages volunteers (parents/guardians and community businesses/members) to visit the school. A survey is presented to the parents/guardians to enlist the help of parents/guardians in providing assistance to our teachers and staff in the following areas: PTSA, chaperone field trips and school dances, teacher luncheons, Big brother/Big sister programs, , guest speakers and more. The survey also asked for opinions and suggestions regarding various school related matters. PTSA meetings are held monthly. Parents are also invited to volunteer at our school at anytime.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES/MEETINGS

Each school year the Sylvan Hills Middle School Leadership Team will schedule the following activities in compliance with Act 319:

- **Sylvan Hills Middle School** will host at least two after school events. The beginning of the school year's Open House allows the parents/guardians to become more familiar with their students' teachers and their learning environment and gives them an opportunity to sign up as a volunteer. During the fall students will have the opportunity to participate in a parent versus student kickball game. During the spring, an evening event will give the families of students the opportunity to participate in activities put on by the various school departments. An Academic Awards Assembly will be held at the end of each nine week grading period for each grade level.
- **Sylvan Hills Middle School** teachers and administrators recruit parents/guardians to serve on various committees such as PTSA, Equity, Yearbook, Band Boosters, Choir Boosters, Clothes Closet/Food Pantry, and community service projects.
- **Sylvan Hills Middle School** counselors, teachers, and administrators work cooperatively with Clinton, Sherwood, Cato Oakbrooke, and Sylvan Hills Elementary schools to provide a smooth transition from elementary school to middle school. All new students and parents/guardians are invited to attend a New Student Orientation night the week before school starts to pick up schedules, walk through the building, practice opening lockers, and meet the 6th grade teachers in an effort to assist students in the transition. We are also hosting a transition camp for 6th graders to help ease the transition.

PARENT INFORMATION CENTER

In compliance with Act 319, **Sylvan Hills Middle School** has a Parent Center located in the library. . Items may be checked out by the parents/guardians to use at home. These items include books, brochures, videos to help parents with middle school age children.

PARENT COMMUNICATIONS

At the beginning of each school year, the parents/guardians are provided with the Pulaski County Special School District website and instructions on accessing the district handbook which outlines policies and rules. A signature page is required to be returned with parent/guardian and student signatures. Agendas are used as a means of communication between teacher and parent/guardian. E-school (HAC) provides parents/guardians with students' grades and email availability. School Status is used to communicate with all parents/guardians about upcoming events and reports absences. Some teachers are using ClassDoJo and Remind to communicate with students and parents/guardians about subject or team information. Parent/guardian notes are sent home with students throughout the year. The **Sylvan Hills Middle School and SHMS** PTSA has a Facebook page to communicate with parents/guardians. Sylvan Hills Middle School has a website where parents/guardians may view information regarding the school, etc. (<https://shms.pcssd.org>). Parent/guardian conferences are scheduled twice each year.

PARENT VISITATION

Parents/guardians are encouraged to visit the school during class, at lunch, and at school events such as Awards Assemblies, special lunches, pep rallies, sports events, and band/choir performances. All visitors are required to sign in in the office and must wear a visitor's pass.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT TRAINING

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 parent/guardian involvement strategies. No fewer than three (3) hours of professional development for administrators designed to enhance understanding of effective parent/guardian involvement strategies and the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parent/guardian participation.

PARENT FACILITATOR

The facilitator for the 2022-2023 Parent Involvement Plan is Shanon Hum , AVID teacher. Ms. Hum may be contacted at 501-833-1120 or shum1395@pcssd.org.

SYLVAN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

PARENT INVOLVEMENT EXPLANATION

2023-2024

Making the transition to middle school can be a very difficult one for students and parents/guardians. Adolescence can be a difficult time as well. Research shows that students are more successful when parents/guardians are involved in their child's education. It is especially important for parents/guardians to be involved during the Middle School years. We believe that parents/guardians are essential to a child's success. Sylvan Hills Middle School not only invites parents/guardians, but we challenge every parent/guardian to volunteer at least one time during the 2016-2017 school year.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT

- Join PTSA
- Join the Band Boosters
- Join the Choir Boosters
- Serve on a committee
- Be a Homeroom Mom or Dad
- Serve as a chaperone for your child's field trip
- Be a volunteer speaker on Veteran's day in the classroom
- Be a volunteer on Career Ed Day
- Assist with the Clothes Closet/Food Pantry
- Assist with community service projects (Arkansas Foodbank Hunger Action Month Food Drive, Christmas for the Military, Friends of Our Animal Shelters, etc.)
- Other suggestions

Please contact the Sylvan Hills Middle School Parent Involvement Facilitator, Shanon Hum , if you are interested. Ms. Hum may be contacted at 501-833-1120 or shum1395@pcssd.org. All PCSSD volunteers must complete a PCSSD volunteer online application which requires a background check.