

## Greenwood Public School District ~ Family And Community Engagement (FACE) Plan ~ 2023-2024

**Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives** ~ The Greenwood School District will continue to involve parents in a meaningful way in the development of the District Engagement Plan, the School Improvement Plan, and the Title I Targeted Assistance Plan. This involvement will include:

- Recruiting parents to serve on the District Family and Community Engagement Committee and the School Improvement Committee. The Greenwood School District is honored to be designated a Purple Star District and will exercise close coordination with all branches of the military. The district will recruit military representatives to serve on the District Family and Community Engagement Committee.
- Recruiting parents for a district Parent Advisory Committee, which is the Greenwood Education Foundation, under the direction of JoElla Skaggs, Foundation Chair.
- Encouraging the formation of partnerships between the district and local businesses that includes roles for parents.
- Involving parents through an annual survey to improve district effectiveness, under the direction of building level chairs and Assistant Superintendent, Josh Ray. This survey will be conducted at the discretion of the FACE Building Coordinator. Some opt for paper surveys while others opt for an electronic version.
- Establishing expectations and objectives for meaningful involvement, reflecting the specific needs of students and families.

The district will make the district engagement plan available to families and the local community. It will file the plan with the State by August 1, place a copy on the website by August 1, and place a parent friendly summary of the plan as a supplement to the student handbook. These steps will be taken by Teresa Rose, District Chair for Family And Community Engagement. Under the direction of building principals, the district will also obtain signatures of parents acknowledging receipt of the plan on the handbook acknowledgement form.

Parents and families will be involved in the decisions regarding how funds reserved for parent and family engagement are allotted for parent involvement activities. Parents will be surveyed annually about activities which are desired and whether they participated in planned activities. In addition, parent input will be sought at yearly spring and fall committee meetings and at the annual Title I parent meeting, which is held yearly in October. Parents of Targeted Assistance students currently being served in Title I will be invited to this meeting in a variety of ways including notes home, phone calls, text messages, and School Status / Remind notifications.

The district will conduct an annual evaluation in the late Spring to identify barriers, needs, and strategies. This evaluation will be a component of the parent survey. The findings of the evaluation will be disaggregated at the Spring district parent and family engagement meeting. All committee members, including parents and community representative will be invited to the Spring Stakeholder Meeting via email. Decisions based on the findings will guide future strategies for more effective Family And Community Engagement. The district will ensure adequate representation of parents and families of participating children in the process.

The district will submit to the State the comments from parents who deem the schoolwide plan unsatisfactory. At the Annual Title I Parent Meeting, procedures for submitting complaints will be explained. The district will measure the success of parent and family engagement by showing an increase in the number of completed surveys. The district will also measure the success of engagement by increasing the number of members on the Face And Community Engagement Committee to include more community representatives.

**Building Staff Capacity** ~ The Greenwood School District will build staff capacity through training and technical assistance. The district requires all certified members to obtain 54 hours of professional development annually which far exceeds the State requirement of 36 hours.

The district will ensure professional development requirements are met for teachers and administrators by having staff keep records of professional development, completing evaluations of professional development, and recording professional development acquisition annually. Assistant Superintendents Dr. Josh Ray and Dr. Cody Chatman, along with administrative assistant Carol Carter, will oversee the record keeping of all professional development activities. The professional development activities will include scheduled activities as required by ACT 969 of 2013, which includes Parent Involvement every four years.

In addition, other professional development activities will address ways and methods to foster greater parent and family engagement through technology and curriculum. On August 1, 2023 professional development (Technology Day) for certified staff will include sessions by Dr. Robin Finley and additional training on the Google Platform. The Greenwood School District will surpass the required state mandate of 36 hours professional development and require each certified staff member to obtain 54 hours professional development. Embedded professional development dates for the 23-24 school year will include October 23, 2023, January 2, 2024, and February 26, 2024. New staff, both certified and classified, will be required to attend New Staff Orientation on August 7, 2023. One component of this training will be effective parent and family engagement procedures and requirements including School Status and Google Classroom. August 10, 2023 will be required professional development for both certified and classified staff and includes collaboration with parent and community stakeholders.

The district will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support to schools in jointly developing school, parent, and family engagement plans, implementing effective parent and family involvement activities, and jointly-developing school-parent-student compacts. Parents and school staff will serve and jointly develop school, parent, and family plans as well as school-parent-student compacts. Schools will provide numerous activities for parent and family involvement including One Book, One District activities, sporting events, musical programs, awards assemblies, work days, and Leadership Day / Night. Parent Involvement funds will be used to provide support for One Book, One District activities. The use of funds will be monitored by Superintendent John Ciesla and Federal Coordinator Teresa Rose.

The district will train teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents in: the value and utility of contributions of parents; how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners; how to implement and coordinate parent programs; how to build ties between parents and the school. Specifically, teachers and instructional personnel will receive additional training on Google Classroom in order to facilitate a learning environment that is user-friendly to both students and families. Parents will serve an active role on various committees throughout the district. Parent input will be solicited via annual surveys and survey results will be evaluated annually. Multiple methods of communication are provided to ensure parents are an integral part of the district and include websites, newsletters, School Status, Remind, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Peach Jar E-Flyers, email, etc. The district will also allow the formation of PTO and booster clubs and actively involve these groups in school events and decision-making.

The district will provide training annually for volunteers and utilize volunteers in a variety of ways to foster student achievement. The volunteer opportunities are numerous and include, PTO workday, guest speakers, in-class assistance, preparing materials, volunteer coaching duties, etc. The district will place a parent-friendly summary of the district PFE plan in the student handbook. Parents will acknowledge receipt of the plan on the Handbook Form. The district will strive to ensure information is sent in a language and format parents and families can understand by using TransAct Parent Notices.

**Building Parent Capacity** ~ The Greenwood School District will build parent capacity. The district will aid parents, as appropriate, in understanding the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, Part A and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

Prior to school beginning each year, Orientation Nights / Open House will be held on each campus to discuss this information. For the 23-24 school year, these dates are August 3, 7, 8 and 10, 2023. A. In addition, the Annual Title I Parent Meeting will be held each year in October. Also, two Parent Teacher Conferences will be held annually: October 19, 2023 and February 22, 2024.

Teachers and administrators strive to foster relationships with parents in order to aid in student academic success. The district will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement. This training will include literacy training, technology training, parenting workshops, CAP / Leadership / Curriculum Day / Night. Specific dates will be disseminated to parents and families in a variety of ways from each building as well as from the district.

The district will provide other reasonable support for parent involvement activities using suggestions given by parents or needs identified by parents. The district will utilize Parent Involvement funds to partially fund specific activities, such as One Book, One District. These activities will be monitored by Superintendent John Ciesla in conjunction with Federal Coordinator Teresa Rose.

**Coordination** ~ The Greenwood School District will coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other Federal, State, and Local programs. Representatives of these outside agencies will be included on the district committee and invited to all stakeholder meetings. Each building committee will include parents and a community representative. Buildings will conduct an annual evaluation and then present that to the district for review. Coordination of all efforts will be overseen by John Ciesla, Superintendent, Dr. Cody Chatman, 7-12 Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Josh Ray, PK-6 Assistant Superintendent, and Teresa Rose, Federal Coordinator.

Some of the coordinated programs include the public library summer reading program, various faith institutions for family resources, United Way, Community Clearinghouse Back Pack Program, and One Book, One District which involves the community. Various faith organizations, including Ashbury Fellowship, Greenwood First Baptist, and Greenwood First Assembly, and other community organizations, including United Way, will assist with needs such as food, clothing, household items, etc.

August 11, 2022 will be required professional development for both certified and classified staff and includes collaboration with parent and community stakeholders. Numerous community stakeholders will participate in this event organized by the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce. The district will house a Parent Center and will also provide parenting materials which encourage and support parents. In addition, the Parent Center will provide food for needy parents.

The Greenwood School District is honored to be designated a Purple Star District and will exercise close coordination with all branches of the military. Dr. Josh Ray will serve as the District Military Liaison/ District Military Education Coordinator. Each of the five schools within the district will have a School Military Education Coordinator who receives yearly training. Each school coordinator will maintain a list of military family students' and will make contact with them. Also, the counselors from each school met with Adalyn Wright with Military Family Services on June 2, 2023 to learn more ways to better assist our military families and information on Operation Phantom. All schools and the district participate yearly in "Purple Up Day" and "Month of the Military Child". All schools participate in Veteran's Day assemblies that recognizes and honors our military families and students. Finally, the Greenwood School District follows the guidelines set by the State and the Compact for Military Families.

Effective programs are in place at each school to ensure a smooth transition between local preschools, all grades, as well as to post-secondary schools or careers. The transitions are closely monitored by building principals and Assistant Superintendents Dr. Josh Ray and Dr. Cody Chatman and Deputy Superintendent Kevin Hesslen. Some of the local preschools the district works closely with are Preschool Extraordinaire, Little Blessings, and Greenwood Preschool Center. Post-secondary and workforce options with which we coordinate include US Military, CTE training, 2-year and 4-year colleges both in and out of state, local businesses, as well as specialized post-secondary avenues for those with developmental delays.

**Evaluation and Reservation** ~ The Greenwood School will reserve at least 1% of the district allocation under Title I, Part A for parent and family engagement activities because the district receives an allocation of \$500,000 or more. In addition, 100% of these funds will be used at the school level with priority given to high-need schools. Therefore, Westwood Elementary and East Pointe Elementary will receive the majority of funds with the remainder allocated to East Hills Middle School.

Parents and families will be involved in the decisions regarding how funds reserved for parent and family engagement are allotted for parent involvement activities. Parents will be surveyed annually about activities that are desired and whether they participated in planned activities. In addition, parent input will be sought at committee meetings and at the annual Title I parent meeting.

The district will ensure the funded activities and strategies are consistent with the district parent and family engagement policy. The district will utilize Parent Involvement funds to partially fund specific activities, such as One Book, One District.

The district will conduct an annual evaluation to identify barriers, needs, and strategies. This evaluation will be a component of the parent survey. The findings of the evaluation will be disaggregated at the Spring building and district parent and family engagement meetings. The district, along with parent and community input, will use the findings from the evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement. The district will review and approve the Parent and Family Engagement Plan for each school prior to the plans being placed on the website. The district will review and update the district plan by August 1.