

AR
Gosnell School District
600 N. State Highway 181
Gosnell AR 72315
870-532-4000

District Parent and Family Engagement Plan

***Please note: Your 20-21 plan has been populated below. Please make revisions or delete and paste your updated plan for 21-22.**

[Click to view Required Components Checklist](#)

District Name:	Gosnell School District
Coordinator Name:	Ashley Bowdler
Plan Review/Revision Date:	
District Level Reviewer, Title	Anita McKinney, District Curriculum Coordinator

Committee Members, Role:

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

First Name	Last Name	Position
Heidi	Moore	Parent
Allison	Hinson	Parent
Kristen	Parker	Parent/Alumni
Laura	Weiss	Teacher/Parent/Alumni
Ricky	Mask	Parent
Ashley	McGuirt	Parent

Committee Members, Role:

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

First Name	Last Name	Position
Ryan	Perkins	Parent
Renita	Sprouse	Parent
Jennifer	Orton	Parent
Faliseona	Brock	Parent
Ashley	Stewart	Parent
Ronnie	McShan	Security Director

Committee Members, Role:

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

First Name	Last Name	Position
Tina	Godsey	Assistant Principal/Alumni
Tiffany	Kennemore	Principal/Parent
Elizabeth	Bryce	Director of Special Services/Title I Coordinator/Alumni
Breah	Poplin	Teacher/Parent/Alumni

Stan	Dutton	Community Member
Ashley	Stewart	Parent

Committee Members, Role:

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

First Name	Last Name	Position
April	White	District Parent Coordinator
Ashley	Bowdler	Parent & Family Engagement Facilitator
Steven	Milligan	Principal
Keelen	Newsom	Assistant Principal/Parent

1: Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives

(Describe/List the District expectations and objectives for parent and family engagement. Describe/List how parents will be involved in the development of the district parent and family engagement policy. Describe/List how parents will be involved in the development and review of the School Improvement/Title I Schoolwide/Title I Targeted Assistance Plan and, if applicable, the Comprehensive Support and Improvement and the Targeted Support and Improvement plans. Describe/List how the District will submit to the State comments from parents who deem the LEA Plan unsatisfactory.)

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

- The Gosnell School District will involve parents/guardians in the development of its parent and family engagement plan by allowing parents/guardians to review the plan and make changes as appropriate before it is sent to the state. This engagement plan will be available on the school district website www.gosnellschool.net for parents and stakeholders to access at any time. Hard copies will be available in the Parent Center, and copies are made available for individuals whose home language is not English or who have a disability.
- The district parent and family engagement plan is filed with the Department of Education by August 1, 2021 in Indistar and is posted to the Gosnell School District website by August 1, 2021.
- Parents and families in the Gosnell School District are given the opportunity to collaborate with the district parent coordinator and parent and family engagement facilitator on how funds are reserved and allotted for family engagement activities through the parent and family engagement committee meetings.
- The student handbook includes a parent-friendly summary of the parent and family engagement plan and parents/guardians must sign and return to acknowledge that they received a copy. This will be done through our new online registration form, which we started using last school year. The parent-friendly summary of the district Parent and Family Engagement Plan will also be on the district's online registration form with a link to the district parent and family engagement plan.
- The district will develop a district parent and family engagement committee to create a parent and family engagement policy and implement parent and family engagement activities as well as disseminate information to the community to promote parent and family engagement in the schools.
- The district will ensure adequate representation of parents and families of participating children in the process by having a diverse parent and family engagement committee made up of parent/family, community, and former students that adequately represent students and families in the district. The district is desiring to find parents/guardians who are community leaders to use them as liaisons. Parents/guardians and other stakeholders are invited to participate in the parent and family engagement committee and are encouraged to voice their opinions and concerns to affect change in the schools.

- The Gosnell School District will submit to the State the comments from parents who deem the schoolwide plan unsatisfactory, if such comments exist.

2: Building Staff Capacity through Training and Technical Assistance

(Describe/List how the district will provide support and technical assistance to all its Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement practices, inclusive of school parent and family engagement policies/plans, school-parent compacts, and all Title I parent and family engagement requirements. Describe/List activities such as workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, and online resources that will be used with school staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners. Include information about how the district and/or schools will provide information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to parents in a format, to the extent practicable, and in a language that parents can understand.)

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

- The Gosnell Elementary School, the district's only Title I school, will develop and use a school-parent compact guided by the Title I committee. The only Title I school in the district develops its own parent and family engagement policy with the help of parents/guardians, teachers, and administrators on the parent and family engagement committee. Meeting times are held at times that accommodate the members. Parent information packets are also distributed. The parent compact is developed at these meetings and is also implemented at the elementary building. The school also provides training for HAC (Home Access Center) and other parenting information packets as requested. The school notifies parents/guardians of the eSchoolPlus Family app available on smartphones and other devices for parents/guardians to access HAC (Home Access Center) to check their child's grades and attendance. Elizabeth Bryce, Title I Coordinator, is the person responsible for making sure this is carried out.
- The Gosnell School District will provide necessary support to its school as they jointly develop school level parent and family engagement plans. The district will implement effective parent and family engagement activities to increase parent and family engagement with the schools. After each event, the event will be assessed for its effectiveness, and we will discuss what can be done to improve it in the future, based on our observations and comments from and communication with parents and families present. We will also try to find out why those who did not attend were not present in hopes that we can increase attendance and participation in the future.
- The Gosnell School District will design professional development opportunities for the staff every four years to include no less than two (2) hours of professional development which are designed to enhance teacher understanding of effective parent/guardian engagement strategies and to remind teachers of the importance of the role of parents and families in the school system. The two (2) hours may be included in the sixty hours of professional development, and the Gosnell School District will ensure required minimum professional development hours are met. Mr. Steven Milligan (870-532-4010), secondary school principal, will ensure professional development requirements are met for secondary teachers and administrators. Mrs. Tiffany Kennemore (870-532-4003), elementary principal, will ensure professional development requirements are met for elementary teachers and administrators.
- The Gosnell School District will provide training for volunteers to allow them to build their capacity to serve the school district and our students. Volunteer training is provided by April White, District Parent Coordinator. The district also continues to integrate technology and technology training by purchasing more technological equipment as needed to promote students' academic success. Parents and families may request technology help from the district parent center or by contacting any of the district offices.
- The student handbook includes a parent-friendly summary of the parent and family engagement plan and parents/guardians must sign and return to acknowledge that they received a copy. The district will put a parent-friendly summary of the district Parent and Family Engagement Plan on its new online registration software with a link to the district parent and family engagement plan.
- The district will ensure, to the extent possible, that information is sent home in a language and format parents and families can understand. Parent facilitator and coordinator may utilize the TransACT Parent Notices program also to help in this area.

3: Building Parent Capacity

(Describe/List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, online resources, and any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to support parents in helping their student's academic success. If applicable, describe how each discretionary item your district and parents chose will be implemented.)

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

- The Gosnell School District will explain annually to parents and the community the State's content and achievement standards, state and local student assessments and how the school's curriculum is aligned with the assessments and how parents can work with the school to improve their child's academic achievement. This will take place on September 27, 2021 (tentative date).
- The curriculum in use follows the state academic standards located on the Arkansas Department of Education's website (<https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/>)
- Gosnell School District will provide parents/guardians with individual student academic assessment results and interpretation of those results at the beginning of each school year. Results of ACT Aspire Interims are sent home with students after each interim.
- The district will provide parents/guardians with the materials and training they need to help their child improve academic achievement and overall wellbeing. Send home "Nutrition Nuggets" newsletter each month. April White, District Parent Coordinator, will take care of this. Publish "Teen Food and Fitness" and "High School Years" newsletters on the secondary school website each month for parents. Ashley Bowdler, District Parent and Family Engagement Facilitator, will take care of this. The school may use the parent resource center or other community-based organizations to foster parent and family engagement and provide literacy and technology training to parents. They are also informed of the parent and family engagement committee and their right to be involved. SMACtalk posters and links are emailed and/or sent out via district text to all parents/guardians in the district each month. The purpose of SMACtalk is to bring awareness for online safety, provide resources, and increase communication for teachers, parents, and students.
- The district will schedule regular "Parent/Guardian Make the Difference Evenings" in order that parents/guardians may be given an overview of:
 - 1) what students will be learning
 - 2) how students will be assisted
 - 3) what parents/guardians should expect concerning their children's education
 - 4) how parents/guardians can assist and make a difference in the education of their children.
- The district will sponsor seminars to inform parents/guardians of high school students of how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selections, career planning, and preparations for post-secondary opportunities. Jamie Roach, high school counselor, and Blythe Mullins, Career Coach, will be responsible for this.
- Staff of the Gosnell School District communicates with parents/guardians regularly and shares information regarding how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children. Parents/guardians of elementary students communicate via take home folders regularly. Home Access Center (HAC) is available for parents/guardians to view students' academic progress K-12 and communicate with teachers. Teachers and parents/guardians will communicate on an individual basis about children and/or their needs. Communication between the district and its families has increased greatly during and due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Social media and digital communication tools are being utilized even more.
- The Gosnell School District provides parents and families with progress reports every four to five weeks regarding their children's academic progress. Report cards are distributed at the end of each nine weeks. After listening to parent/guardian feedback on parent surveys, parent/teacher conferences for the 2021-2022 school year will be offered at progress report (mid-quarter) and end of quarter instead of just at the end of the quarter when report cards are available. Dates for this year's parent/teacher conferences are September 14, 2021; October 19, 2021; February 10, 2022; and March 17, 2022. Times are 3:30-6:30 p.m. on each date.
- The district will engage in other activities determined by the school to be designed to welcome parents/guardians in the school. For example, the elementary (K-6) school will host Muffins with Mom and Donuts with Dad events (dates have not been set yet) along with Mom Prom (November 2021) and the Father-Daughter Dance (February 2022). Feedback on surveys indicated that the district needs similar events at the secondary

level. During the 2019-2020 school year, the secondary school hosted its first Pastries with Parents (November 6, 2019) and Cookies with Caregivers (February 4, 2021) events. It was the school's intention to host these events during the 2020-2021 school year after positive feedback from parents/guardians, but we were unable to due to COVID-19. However, we do intend to host them, or something similar, during the upcoming 2021-2022 school year; dates will be set once school starts. Tiffany Kennemore, Elementary Principal, is responsible for the Muffins with Mom, Donuts with Dad, Mom Prom, Father-Daughter Dance, and any other events and activities that engage elementary parents and families. Ashley Bowdler, District Parent and Family Engagement Facilitator, is responsible for the Pastries with Parents and Cookies with Caregivers events at the secondary level.

- Training for parents/guardians to use the Home Access Center (HAC) to allow them to monitor their child's attendance and achievement records may be provided by the district if needed. The parent and family engagement committee discussed this at the annual spring meeting in May 2021. A date has not been set yet, but the goal is to host this in August or September 2021. Parents/guardians will be notified of the Home Access Center (HAC) information through Parent/teacher conferences and the school district website. Parents will also be notified of the eSchoolPlus Family app available on smartphones and other devices for parents/guardians to access HAC (Home Access Center) to check their child's grades and attendance.

4: Reservation and Evaluation

(Describe/List how the district will share with parents and family members the budget for parent and family engagement activities and programs and how parents and family members will be involved in providing input into how the funds are used. If the district does not receive a Title I, Part A allocation greater than \$500,000, then the district is not required to include a description of its Reservation of Funds. If a reservation is required, then a minimum of 90% of that 1% must go to the schools, with priority given to high-need schools. Describe/List actions for how the annual evaluation will be conducted, identifying who will be responsible for conducting it, and explaining what role parents and family members will play.)

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

- Funds are allocated as deemed necessary for all parent and family engagement activities.
- Parents/guardians are surveyed annually in the spring on the effectiveness of the schools. The survey also asks parents/guardians to identify any barriers and give feedback on the needs of the schools. The survey will be conducted and results will be calculated by Ashley Bowdler, District Parent and Family Engagement Facilitator (870-532-4010). The findings from these annual surveys are used to make recommendations to each participating school for parent and family engagement policy revision and ultimately to improve the way things are done. The evaluation process involves the parent and family engagement facilitator and coordinator so they can take the recommendations to each of their participating schools.
- The district utilizes the data and findings from the evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement. The findings are shared with committees and information is shared with the administration and staff.
- In the spring of every school year—the Parent and Family Engagement Committee, in conjunction with the Gosnell School District, shall review, update, and approve its district and school parent and family engagement plans and will file a copy of the plan with the Department of Education by August 1. Ashley Bowdler, District Parent and Family Engagement Facilitator, is responsible for making sure this is carried out.

5: Coordination

(Describe/List how the district will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports and resources to families such as public preschool programs or organizations to help students transition to elementary, middle, high, and postsecondary schools or careers.)

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each

of the required components?

- The Gosnell School District will coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs throughout the school year. This will look different at each school since the needs are different because of varying age levels. Schools will collaborate with local community organizations and businesses to provide resources for families.
- Gosnell School District has some high school students with disabilities that participate in Opportunity for Work-based Learning (OWL) as part of their transition program to prepare them for postsecondary schools and careers. This federal grant program works closely with the state program, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS), as a work based learning program to facilitate a collaborative effort between local school districts. Arkansas Rehabilitation Services and Arkansas Transition Services ensure students with disabilities are afforded the opportunity to gain work readiness training skills and work experiences through a transition class prior to exiting the secondary setting.

The work based learning program (WBLP) is an educational approach and instructional methodology that utilizes the workplace or real work setting to provide students the knowledge and skills that will connect school experiences to real-life work activities and future career opportunities prior to exiting the secondary setting. By partnering we can ensure students have the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to obtain and maintain employment after graduating the secondary setting; thus improving post school outcomes and successful transition from high school to post-secondary life.

The OWL program is designed to enhance transition programming within IDEA mandates while meeting the requirements of the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) through a coordinated set of activities. The OWL program is a partnership between school districts and ARS, in collaboration with Arkansas Transition Services to create opportunities for students to participate in work-based learning by providing exposure to the world of work through various experiences. Partnering with ARS will provide the opportunity for high school students enrolled in our school's transition class/classes to obtain work experience prior to exiting the secondary setting. Elizabeth Bryce, Title I Coordinator, is the person responsible for making sure the OWL program is implemented and carried out.

- Through a partnership with ABC (Arkansas Better Chance), which is run by the co-op, Gosnell Elementary houses three Pre-K classrooms, which accepts three and four year olds. The Pre-K has parent and family engagement activities each month, and all parents/guardians are invited to attend. The Pre-K parents and guardians are also invited to conference with the Pre-K teachers on the district-scheduled Parent/Teacher Conference nights in September, October, February, and March. The Pre-K has an Open House on August 12, 2021, which is coordinated to be the same night as the district-wide Open House for the elementary and secondary schools. In the spring, we coordinate with ABC and give the Pre-K classes a tour of the kindergarten and elementary buildings. The students meet all the Kindergarten teachers, special class teachers (Art, Music, PE, Library, etc.), and the elementary principal/assistant principals. A meeting is held with the Pre-K parents/guardians to discuss the transition from Preschool to Kindergarten. The parents/guardians are given Kindergarten readiness information so they can work with their child at home. The Pre-K classes are invited to elementary school programs. The Pre-K families are invited to all elementary school Parent and Family Engagement activities, such as the Art Shows, Book Fairs, Music Programs, Open House, and Parent-Teacher Conferences.
- Gosnell Elementary School collaborates with the fire and police departments to promote safety in and outside of the home and promote careers in public service. Tiffany Kennemore, Elementary Principal, is responsible for making sure this is carried out.
- Gosnell High School has partnered with the state and Arkansas Northeastern College to provide a full-time career coach in its school. The Career Coach program is founded upon the objective to provide all high school students with career guidance and pathways to extending their education beyond high school. Steven Milligan, Secondary Principal, is responsible for making sure this is carried out.
- The Gosnell School District works with local counseling agencies at each of its schools to provide necessary supports to students regularly and also to provide extra supports in the event of a disaster such as student death or loss of a family member.
- Gosnell High School partners with Great River Medical Center (GRMC) in Blytheville. GRMC comes to the school during the summer and provides free physicals for athletes in grades 7-12 to help student athletes be able to compete and maintain their health.
- Gosnell High School students are regularly engaged in community service projects such as blood drives and canned food drives. For example, the GHS Student Council hosts the canned food drive for the high school and partners with Gosnell Baptist Church to store and distribute the food in Thanksgiving baskets to needy families in the school and community. Food drives are also held in the elementary and junior high buildings and used by

Gosnell Baptist Church for the same purpose (Thanksgiving baskets).

- Our district has a Parent Center, which is a parent resource center, open daily for parents and stakeholders. Information that promotes and supports responsible parenting is available to parents and families. April White, District Parent Coordinator, is responsible for maintaining the parent resource center and its resources.

(Find complete guidance on the [DESE Parent and Family Engagement Requirements](#) webpage.)

ADE Reviewer Responses by Section

Section 1 - Jointly Developed Expectations and Outcomes

- Federal Compliance
 - State Compliance
-

Comments:

9/15/2020 KWilson. Section meets required components.

Section 2 - Building Staff Capacity through Training and Technical Assistance

- Federal Compliance
 - State Compliance
-

Comments:

9/15/2020 KWilson. Section meets required components.

Section 3 - Building Parent Capacity

- Federal Compliance
 - State Compliance
-

Comments:

9/15/2020 KWilson. Section meets required components.

Section 4 - Reservation and Evaluation

- Federal Compliance
 - State Compliance
-

Comments:

9/15/2020 KWilson. Section meets required components.

Section 5 - Coordination

Federal Compliance

State Compliance

Comments:

9/15/2020 KWilson. Section meets required components.