

AR
 Texarkana Arkansas School District
 3435 Jefferson Ave
 Texarkana AR 71854
 870-772-3371

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:	Texarkana Arkansas School District
Coordinator Name:	Dr. Genia Bullock
Plan Review/Revision Date:	8/1/2021
District Level Reviewer, Title	Dr. Becky Kesler, Superintendent

Committee Members, Role:

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

First Name	Last Name	Position
Dr. Becky	Kesler	Superintendent
Dr. Robin	Hickerson	Asst. Superintendent for Secondary Education
Gwen	Adams	Asst. Superintendent for Elementary Education
Dr. Genia	Bullock	Director of Public Relations
Lea	McDonald	Director of Federal Programs
Michael	Odom	Arkansas High School Principal

Committee Members, Role:

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

First Name	Last Name	Position
Theresa	Cowling	Arkansas Middle School Principal
Samantha	Coleman	North Heights Community School Principal
Demarcus	Green	Kilpatrick Elementary Principal
Brian	Mitchell	Harmony Leadership Academy Principal
Bryan	McDonald	Fairview Elementary Principal
Tracey	Boyles	Trice Elementary Principal

Committee Members, Role:

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

First Name	Last Name	Position

Billy	Berry	ABC Parent Facilitator
Christaine	Irvin	AHS Parent Facilitator
Jennifer	Page	Kilpatrick Parent Facilitator
Amanda	Razaq	Fairview Parent Facilitator

Committee Members, Role:

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

First Name	Last Name	Position
Gail	Young	Arkansas Middle School Parent Facilitator
Katlyn	Niemeyer	Trice Parent Facilitator
Lorinda	Clark	Harmony Parent Facilitator
Julie	Williams	North Heights Parent Facilitator
Ellen	Holmes	Grandparent

Committee Members, Role:

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

First Name	Last Name	Position
Terrie	Milligan	Parent
Gail	Williams	Grandparent
Jennifer	Haurd	Parent
Dorothy	Jackson	Grandparent
LeMesha	Huntley	Parent
Christina	Kift	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?

- Develop district parental engagement committee to create a parent and family engagement policy and implement activities as well as disseminate information to the community to promote parental engagement in the Title I, Part A schools;

o To reward those parents who find unique ways to serve in our schools, we choose a Volunteer of the month and recognize each of the Volunteer of the Month recipients at a culminating celebration at the end of the school year, typically in April. In light of the rise in cases of the Delta variant, the annual volunteer celebration may be adjusted to ensure the safety of event attendees.

- We also honor one parent volunteer on each campus, one community business or organization from each

campus, a district-level business VIPS and a district-level parent VIPS each year for the Jack Hardy Volunteer of the Year

- Genia Bullock and Lea McDonald will conduct an annual meeting with Title I, Part A Policy committee to update policy for the next year's Title I, Part A program. In light of the rise in cases of the Delta variant, the 2021-2022 Title I meeting will be conducted using video conferencing tool in an effort to ensure a safe meeting environment. Dr. Bullock and Mrs. McDonald may be contacted at 8707723371 ext. 1003 & 1007, respectively.

- o We meet with the District Parent and Family Involvement Committee and Parent Campus Coordinator to discuss upcoming plans for the new year and Family Engagement updates from the state of Arkansas.

- Genia Bullock will coordinate and integrate parental engagement activities with parent engagement strategies under other programs, such as: Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction, Preschool Youngsters, Family Protective Services foster care programs, and in and state-run preschools. Dr. Bullock may be contacted at 8707723371 ext. 1003.

- Identify parental engagement contact person at each of the Title I, Part A schools. The following individuals represent their campus:

- o Christaine Irvin, Arkansas High School; Gail Young, Arkansas Middle School; Lorinda Clark, Harmony Leadership Academy; Katlyn Niemeyer, Trice Elementary; Jennifer Musgraves, Kilpatrick Elementary; Amanda Razaq, Fairview Elementary; and Julie Williams, North Heights Community School.

- Involve parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental engagement is spent, and ensure that not less than 95 percent reserved goes directly to the schools. Parents give their input during the Districtwide planning meeting. Parents were involved in the 2021-2022 School Reopening Plan.

- Ensure that parents of children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have the same access as other parents including information in a language and form they can understand. During the 2020-2021 school year the District changed the website service providers, which includes a feature that allows the content on the website to be translated into other languages - the change has proven to be extremely beneficial. Terri Martinez conducts meetings with ELL parents to provide additional assistance and information to ensure parents are updated on district information and have access to personnel. Genia Bullock and Terri Martinez are responsible for providing information to parents in a language they can understand. Dr. Bullock may be contacted at 8707723371 ext. 1003, Mrs. Martinez can be reached at 870773-1091.

- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.

- Engage parents in the development of the Title I plan and the process of school review and improvement.

- Dena Youngblood will upload the parent and family engagement plan summary to the District website. Paper copies of the District plan will be placed in the campus Parent Centers by Dr. Bullock. Parents and/or community members will be given a copy upon request.

- A copy of the parent and family engagement plan will be filed with the Department of Education by August 1.

- A copy of the parent and family engagement plan will be uploaded to the district's website by August 1.

- Copies of the parent and family engagement plan will be available at each school for parents to review as well as copies of individual campus parent and family engagement plans.

- o Copies will also be available under the Parent Link on the district website.

- Genia Bullock will facilitate semester meetings, coordinate parent and family activities with other programs, and establish a contact person at each Title I school. Dr. Bullock may be contacted at 8707723371 ext. 1003. Parent meetings will be structured to meet mandates given by the Arkansas Department of Health.

- The District-level Volunteers In Public Schools (VIPS) committee group meets regularly to review, discuss and suggest ways to improve across the district.

- An Annual Review Meeting will be held September 2021. Video conferencing will be utilized to engage parents during the September meeting. A digital sign-in sheet will be created within the Zoom and filed indicating parent/guardian receipt of parent and family engagement plan as well as the parent/student handbook.
- Using video conferencing, the superintendent will conduct RazorSharp Communicator meetings to provide information to parents and receive feedback from parents and the community.
- Parent meetings, parent surveys, and community forums will provide the opportunity for public opinion and suggestions for school review and improvement. The topics will include but are not limited to: Ready for Learning Reopening plan, improving test scores, aligning curriculum, preparing for state assessments, school safety, allocation of school resources, and engaging families and leveraging community partnerships.

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?

- Genia Bullock will conduct ongoing site visits to observe parent and family engagement practices and provide assistance in the coordination of engagement opportunities as well as support events. Campuses will be encouraged to seek ways to engage families during the school year as we continue to see a rise in cases of the Delta variant. Dr. Bullock may be contacted at 8707723371 ext. 1003.
- At the end of the final semester, campus facilitators will meet with Dr. Bullock to discuss parent and family engagement plan to assess and revise campus plans. Additionally, materials and training will be available to assist parents in supporting their child's academic achievement.
 - o Each campus has a parent center with materials available to parents. They also have access to online training on the district website.
 - o Via teleconference, all VIPS (Volunteer In Public School) members will be invited to a kick-off meeting to brainstorm and discuss volunteer opportunities and process and procedures while volunteering in the Texarkana Arkansas School District – this will look very different this year. However, unique engagement activities that families can do at home will be beneficial to many of our families. Each VIPS member receives a How-to-Guide and VIPS Handbook. Additionally, the school district provides training annually for volunteers who assists in an instructional program for parents. Parents will participate in the Leader In Me training as well as training that will help them support their children during virtual learning.
- Professional Development opportunities will be provided to enhance the awareness and skills of teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and staff in reaching out to, communicating with, and working with parents as equal partners. Each month during principal/administrator's meeting, parent and family engagement opportunities are discussed and reviewed to ensure assistance and parental involvement activities reach all parents.
- District staff participates in 2 hours of profession development during the summer. This training involves parental and family engagement best practices and resources and materials for engagement. Shoebox is used to record staff professional development hours are met.

- District administrators meet during the summer to assess practices and procedures. The strategies include reaching out to students and their families. In 2021, the District purchased a state-of-the-art Wi-Fi vehicle that is used to provide internet access to students and their families in various communities and apartment complexes. This added services provides much needed internet access to our families as they assist their students with homework help.
- We provide orientation to parents, a variety of activities for parents, and parent and family engagement professional development for teachers and administrators.
- Ensure, to the extent possible, that information is sent home in a language and form parents can understand. Information will be disseminated to parents in their home language, if necessary.
- Provide information on adult literacy training available in the community. Parents are referred to the Adult Education Center.
- Provide a copy of the school policy at each school for parents to review as well as provide a copy to each parent.
 - o Copies will also be available under the Parent link and on the district website.
- Monitor each Title I, Part A school to ensure that each school performs the following tasks:
 - o Develop a parent and family engagement policy and ensure it is included in the district's policy and procedure manual
 - o Offer flexible meeting times
 - o Provide information to parents about the school's program, including parent information print materials
 - o Develop and use a School/Parent Compact and place in the district's Student/Parent Handbook
- Genia Bullock will give each Campus Coordinator a deadline to create and/or update their parental involvement plan. Dr. Bullock will check the campus' website and follow up with the coordinator, if necessary.
- Copies of the parental involvement plan will be placed on the website, at the District Administration office, and in each campus' Parent Center. Individual copies will be given, upon request. A message will be placed on the district website for the community.

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?

- Provide training for parents in working with their child to improve academic achievement, to include training on the phone notification system and internet access to *Grades Online* in order to have real-time access to their child's attendance and achievement.
- Students will return to traditional face-to-face learning for the 2021-2022 school year. The District offers a Digital Learning Academy for parents who want their child(ren) to attend school virtually. Online and in person training on the Google Classroom platform as well as other learning tools to support student academic achievement is available for parents.
- Parents have access to grades online, attendance, and the phone notification system to be keep up with and be informed about academic achievement of their child.

- Involve parents on committees as participants in decision-making capacities. Parents were included in the district's School Reopening Plan. Parent feedback was instrumental in the design of the plan.
- Reinforce parenting skills to support the acquisition of academic skills and their application in real-life situations for parent use.
- Encourage parents to seek ways to engage with their children while at home, e.g. learning units of measurement while cooking together. Assist staff in developing volunteer opportunities as well as training staff to encourage and build volunteer efforts that can be done off-campus due to the pandemic.
- Encourage parent participation through innovative scheduling of virtual activities or activities that may be done in smaller groups. Such as holding virtual or small group meetings at a variety of times - mornings and evenings, in order to maximize the opportunities for parents to participate in school-related activities.
- Coordinate and integrate parental engagement strategies and staff training with the Readiness Coalition Committee.
- Convene annual school meetings to inform parents of their school's participation in the development of the parental engagement policy and their right to be involved.

- o The Superintendent conducts an annual public meeting and gives her district report to the public. Currently, the 2021-2022 meeting is planned to be conducted virtually.

- Provide information to participating parents in such areas as national, state, and local education goals, including parents' rights as defined in Title I, Part A.

- o Parents are informed at each campus and they receive a Parents' Right to Know Letter.

- Assist in the development of parent engagement groups at each school; such as VIPS (Volunteer In Public Schools), and Coffee with the Principals. Campus Coordinators are responsible for coordinating each group. They are Christaine Irvin, Arkansas High School; Gail Young, Arkansas Middle School; Lorinda Clark, Harmony Leadership Academy; Katlyn Niemeyer, Trice Elementary; Jennifer Musgraves, Kilpatrick Elementary; Amanda Razaq, Fairview Elementary; and Julie Williams, North Heights Community School.

- Encourage the formation of partnerships between schools and local businesses that include a role for parents. The District has established Partners to Achieve Student Success (PASS) with local businesses.

- Provide resources for parents to learn about child development, childrearing

practices, and academic strategies that are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their child.

- o Information is available at each campus parent center such as: audio materials, books, pamphlets, and internet access. Parents also have full access to the parent resources on the district website.

- Involve parents in a survey to improve school effectiveness the surveys will be conducted during first and second semester. Parents will participate in annual online or paper surveys that are collected and conducted by each campus. Parent voice via surveys was vital during the 2020-2021 school year. Parents participated in surveys regarding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their children's learning. Questions included access to technology/internet, food insecurities, social/emotional behavior, etc. Parent responses guided the district's Ready to Learn Committee's decision to create multiple pathways of learning to support the needs of our students and families. In July 2021, the District conducted an American Rescue Act Plan survey to determine if parents felt like the District met the needs of their families during the pandemic. The District will continue to seek feedback from parents by utilizing surveys to gauge parents concerns, etc.

- Approve reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental engagement activities.

- o More than 1% of the Title I budget is set aside to promote parental engagement in our schools and district.

- Provide any reasonable support for parental engagement at the request of participating Title I, Part A parents. Materials and supplies are provided for students when supplemental educational resources are necessary. The District will ensure that participating parents are informed of national, state, and local educational goals and their rights as defined under Title I, Part A on the District website and by formal letter.

- Arkansas Women for Education (AWE) is an organization dedicated to being a strong advocate for the Texarkana Arkansas School District (TASD) by initiating and supporting activities to make TASD the premier educational institution in the Texarkana Region.
- The Texarkana Arkansas Education Foundation is an organization committed to providing grant opportunities to teachers to support classroom or campus projects

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?

- An Annual Title 1 meeting is held to ensure parents and families are involved in the decisions regarding how funds reserved for parent and family engagement are allotted for parental involvement activities. During the meeting, Lea McDonald will discuss funds that are reserved for parent and family engagement activities. The District will continue to assess the pandemic situation to determine if the 2021-2022 meeting will be held in person or via teleconference.
- Lea McDonald, Director of Federal Funding, regularly reviews the expenditures and works closely with Dr. Bullock and the district's business office to ensure funds are allocated properly and in a timely manner.
- Survey parents each semester, including questions to identify barriers to parental engagement conducted by Genia Bullock. Dr. Bullock may be contacted at 8707723371 ext. 1003.
- Provide an opportunity for the parents to assist in the development of the evaluation procedures, including analysis of data collected. This will be overseen by Dr. Bullock. Dr. Bullock may be contacted at 8707723371 ext. 1003.
- Use findings from evaluation process to:
 - o Make recommendations to each participating school for parental engagement policy revision.
 - o Provide suggestions for designing school improvement policies, as they relate to parental engagement. This will be overseen by Ms. Gwen Adams. Ms. Adams may be contacted at 8707723371 ext. 1010.
- Develop and disseminate an annual parent activity evaluation report to share with parents, staff and the community. Dr. Bullock will be responsible for this task. Dr. Bullock may be contacted at 8707723371 ext. 1003.

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?

- We meet with parents to create, review, and revise the District ACSIP plan.
 - Parents and community members are recruited from each campus, civic organizations, local businesses, and nonprofits to serve on district Title I/ACSIP Committees. These individuals give us feedback to improve our District through discussion, surveys, and evaluations.
 - Lea McDonald is responsible for recruiting parents to serve on the District ACSIP committee to develop the Title I application. Mrs. McDonald can be reached at 8707723371 ext. 1007.
- Coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs such as the Randy Sam's Homeless Shelter, Foster Care, Harvest Texarkana Food Bank, etc.

(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:

10/22/2020 FScott

Meets required components

Section 2 - Building Staff Capacity through Training and Technical Assistance

- ✓ Federal Compliance
 - ✓ State Compliance
-

Comments:

10/22/2020 FScott

Meets required components

Section 3 - Building Parent Capacity

- ✓ Federal Compliance
 - ✓ State Compliance
-

Comments:

10/22/2020 FScott

Meets required components

Section 4 - Reservation and Evaluation

- ✓ Federal Compliance
 - ✓ State Compliance
-

Comments:

10/26/2020 FScott

Meets required components.

10/22/2020 FScott

There is mention of an annual Title I Meeting but it is not clear if the required component is met:
Ensure parents and families are involved in the decisions regarding how funds reserved for parent and family engagement are allotted for parental involvement activities.

Section 5 - Coordination

- ✓ Federal Compliance
 - ✓ State Compliance
-

Comments:

10/26/2020 Fscott

Meets required component

10/22/2020 FScott

Plan needs to meet required component to Coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs

