

Eureka Springs School District
Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Policy

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Goal 1 - The Eureka Springs School District agrees to implement the following requirements:

1. The Eureka Springs School District will be governed by the following definition of parent engagement: Parent engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, ensuring that:
 - a) parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
 - b) parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
 - c) parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.
2. The Eureka Springs School District will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children. The Eureka Springs School District will incorporate this district-wide Parent, Family, and Community Engagement policy into its ACSIP plans and handbooks.
3. The Eureka Springs School District will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and include a school-parent compact. The Parental Engagement Committee consists of Bryan Pruitt, Superintendent; David Gilmore, Federal Programs Coordinator and High School Principal; Clare Haozous, Elementary School Principal; Caen Dowell, Middle School Principal; Jack Moyer, business professional; Kristen Jewell, parent; Jessica Cummings, teacher; Maria Ellis, teacher; and Amanda Elsey, teacher.
4. The Eureka Springs School District will coordinate parent engagement activities with those of other programs such as HIPPY (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters) and the State-run ABC preschool program.
5. The Eureka Springs School District will establish a parental engagement contact person at each of the Title I, Part A schools. The Elementary School Contact is Amanda Elsey; the Middle School contact is Maria Ellis; and the High School contact is Jessica Cummings.
6. This committee meets annually in the spring at flexible times and is responsible for developing and reviewing the district parental engagement plan and updating the policy for the upcoming year's Title I, Part A Program. David Gilmore, Federal Programs Coordinator is the program facilitator for the annual meeting.
7. The committee will implement parent engagement activities and disseminate information to the community and promote parent engagement activities, including but not limited to newsletters, Science Nights, EAST Night Out, the website (eukaspringsschools.k12.ar.us), ESSD app, Family Literacy Night, Facebook Page, Parent Nights, Parent/Teacher conferences and the Phone Alert System.

- a) Initial evaluation will be conducted by the parent and family engagement coordinators, Jessica Cummings, High School, Lynda Miller, Middle School, and Amanda Elsey, Elementary School.
- b) Identified further evaluation will be conducted by the appropriate departments including ESL, Migrant, SPED, and other District personnel.
- c) Site visits for Title I Nights/Parent Nights will be made by David Gilmore, Federal Programs Coordinator.
- d) The Parent Engagement Coordinators of each Title I, Part A school will ensure that each school performs the following tasks:
 - Develop parent engagement policy
 - Offer flexible meeting times
 - Provide information to parents about the school's program, including a parent information guide.
 - Develop and use the School-Parent Compact.

By August 1 the District and each of its schools shall review and update their District Parent/Guardian and Community Engagement Plans and will file copies of those Plans with the Department of Education as well as post updated plans on the school website. A copy of the plan including the summary will be placed in our student handbook. Parents sign and return a statement that they have access to the plan.

As part of the School Improvement Plan, the federal coordinator will ensure that each school has appropriate representation on their committee for their parental and community engagement committee and plan and is meeting the requirements for Title I, Part A schools.

Goal 3 - How will the district build the school's capacity for strong parent engagement?

Our parent and family engagement coordinators attend parent and family engagement trainings when offered such as The Parent Tool Kit rolled out by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education. Trainings of this type help us keep up to date with parent engagement requirements and strategies to boost parent engagement.

1. The Eureka Springs School District will provide parents with information about local, state and national education goals. Identified schools will also make available parents' rights as defined in Title I, Part A. Links will be posted on the website and may be requested in print form.
2. Each school will provide the opportunity for the formation of parent engagement groups such as Scottie Boosters and work with these groups.
3. Parents will be given the opportunity to participate in periodic surveys when deemed necessary by administrators to improve school effectiveness. Survey results will be reviewed by the parent engagement committee.
4. The district will provide reasonable support for parent engagement at the request of the schools. This support may include but is not limited to publicizing parent engagement events and providing district level staff to support events.

Goal 4 - Ensure that required PD is implemented for teachers and staff.

This school district will design professional development opportunities for teachers to include no less than two hours of PD. They will design a minimum of three hours of PD for administrators. To ensure that these PD activities are completed and logged the district will keep a PD log for every staff member through the ESC works program.

Local businesses and organizations play a key role in supporting our school district in numerous ways. Local businesses and organizations often volunteer their time and resources to make parent nights a success. They also help get the word out and advertise for parent meetings.

- At the elementary level we work with local partners such as ABC Preschool and The Learning Center to transition kids from preschool to Elementary. Numerous meetings and orientations are held with parents and staff on both sides to make this transition a success.
- The district also does a kindergarten round up event every year to educate parents on the requirements of registering students and the need for a mandated education.
- At the middle school level students attend transition meetings to the middle school and then to high school in the 8th grade.
- At the high school level we have numerous stakeholders and businesses that attend meetings and provide input for local career needs and educational improvements that can be made. Career Technical Ed groups are formed for every area that we offer for the district such as agriculture, building trades, business, film, etc that include local constituents.
- We also partner with local business leaders such as Tyson Foods to help students transition to career workforce options. Tyson Foods has created a trade school that local students can attend to learn job skills such as welding and general maintenance.
- Select students attend half a day at the trade school as well as other options like the nursing program that is taught through North Arkansas College. Numerous college and career day visits are held throughout the year ranging from campus tours to career days with local businesses.

This policy was revised and adopted by the Eureka Springs School District Board of Education while in regular session on 2/13/2023.



Bryan Pruitt, Superintendent

2/13/2023

Date