

AR
Piggott School District
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870-598-2572

District Engagement Plan

Please read over the updated form closely. Note the new Assurances section allows you to confirm practices that are *required* but do not need further elaboration. In the response fields, please include links to additional information that can help support your story as you answer the guiding questions. At the bottom of this form, you will find guidance on the required documentation upload for Federal Monitoring for 2022-23.

1: Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives

Describe how the LEA works with parents and families to develop and review relevant plans, policies, and strategies related to engagement, including establishing expectations and objectives.

Guiding Questions

- **1.1:** How does the LEA involve parents in the development and review of the District Engagement Plan, 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?
[ESSA § 1116(a)(2); A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(a)]
- **1.2:** What efforts have been made to ensure adequate representation of parents and families or participating children in the process (Title I families)?
[ESSA § 1116(a)(1)]
- **1.3:** How has the Engagement Coordinator and/or Committee worked with the School Improvement/District Support Committees in order to incorporate the Engagement Plan into the Schoolwide Plan?
[ESSA § 1116(a)(2)]
- **1.4:** What expectations and measurable objectives has the LEA established for meaningful family and community engagement?
[ESSA § 1116(a)(2)]

The Piggott School District will promote effective parental involvement strategies and support stakeholder partnerships consisting of parents, school employees, and members of the community to improve student achievement. This will be done by welcoming parents and families into the district and all students learning experiences by striving to build relationships through meaningful communication. The Piggott School District ensures family engagement by looking at relevant data such as data form needs assessments, and feedback from family members to address concerns, as well as make parent and family engagement a priority in all district and parent and community input meetings. All parents are encouraged and welcomed to provide input or express any concerns at designated meetings. The district will accomplish the stated goals in a variety of ways including:

- * The Piggott School District will develop and disseminate District Parental Involvement policies by placing the policies electronically on our district website and providing a copy to parents.
- * The district will conduct an annual meeting in the spring (late April-early May) to update and review the policies for next year's Title I, Part-A program. Ellen Meadows, Elementary Parent Involvement Facilitator, and Jerri Tate, High School Parental Involvement Facilitator, will conduct the meeting.
- * The district maintains a parent center located at the Elementary School and High School buildings. The Parent Center Coordinator, Diana Vanderkooij, coordinates parental involvement activities with those of the Camp run

preschool program and Head Start program.

*The district will establish a parental involvement contact person at the elementary, our Title I, Part-A School, and our high school. Diana Vanderkooi is the Parent Center Coordinator at both the elementary and high school campuses.

*Certified staff members Ellen Meadows is the Parental Involvement Facilitator at Elementary and Jerri Tate is the Parent Involvement Facilitator at the High School. They are responsible for organizing parent involvement activities throughout the year.

*The district will conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of the parental involvement policies. Ellen Meadows, Parental Involvement Facilitator at the Elementary School and Jerri Tate, Parental Involvement Facilitator at the High School, will oversee the review.

*The district will develop a parental involvement committee to create a parental involvement policy and implement parental involvement activities, as well as, disseminate information to the community to promote parental involvement in the Title I, Part-A School.

*The district will work to ensure that parents of children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have the same access as other parents, to the extent possible, to information in a language and form they can understand.

In addition to the above, the following will take place:

1. Involving parents and families in the development and improvement of Title I programs for the school. The district administration will develop a district parental involvement committee, a parental involvement policy, and implement parent activities as well as communicate information to all parents and families in the community.
2. This committee will meet throughout the year to examine data from surveys with the goal of creating high parental involvement and brainstorming solutions to any obstacles or problems that would hinder parental engagement in our district.
3. The district will provide parents with the materials and training they need to help their child be successful. The school will use the parent resource center and other community based organizations to foster parental involvement and provide literacy and technology training to parents.
4. The district will train staff and parents in various ways to work and communicate with parents and to know how to implement parental involvement programs which will be conducive to forging partnerships between the community, school, and parents.
5. The district will communicate all meetings, programs, and activities to parents about opportunities to be involved in their child's education. This will include ensuring that all parents of all children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have the same access as other parents. Any results of stakeholder surveys or other communication received from parents/guardians whether by email, written, or verbal will be taken in consideration when developing the schoolwide plan.
6. The Piggott School District will file and submit this plan with the Department of Education by August 1 through Indistar. Any comments from parents unsatisfied with the schoolwide plan will be submitted to ade.engagementmatters@ade.arknsas.gov.
7. The Piggott School District will place a parent-friendly summary/explanation of the parent and family engagement plan online and as a supplement to the student handbook.
8. The Piggott School District will provide an annual meeting to inform parents of the opportunities in parental involvement, inform them of their right to be involved in the education of their child, and will obtain signatures from each parent acknowledging receipt of the Piggott School District's parent and family engagement plan summary.

2: Building Staff Capacity

Describe how the district will support all its Title I schools in planning and implementing effective engagement

practices.

Guiding Questions

- **2.1:** *How will the district provide support and technical assistance to all of its Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement practices? This includes*
 - *jointly-developing school engagement plans*
 - *implementing effective parent and family involvement activities*
 - *jointly-developing school-parent compacts**[ESSA § 1116(a)(2)(B)]*
- **2.2:** *How does the LEA build staff capacity to work with parents as equal partners? This may include workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, and online resources that will be used to ensure ALL school staff are aware of:*
 - *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**[ESSA § 1116(e)(3)]*
- **2.3:** *How will the district ensure information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is provided to parents in a format and in a language that parents can understand (to the extent practicable)?*
 - *How are you ensuring that relevant information is provided in a variety of ways? (For example, paper copies made available, as well as social media posts, website links, parent apps, etc.)?**[ESSA § 1116(e)(5)]*

The district will provide support and assistance to each school to plan and implement parental and family engagement practices including plans, policies, school-parent compacts and all Title I requirements. The district will also monitor each school for the purpose to help make sure that each school develops a parent involvement plan with parent and stakeholder input, while offering all stakeholders convenient meeting times. This will help ensure that all parents have ample time to be involved in their child's education and that the district will be able to communicate to the parent/guardian all about the school's programs and plans. School coordinators will be responsible for meeting with the district coordinator and analyzing PFE information, including timelines, agendas, sign in sheets, and other resources. School plans will be reviewed before they are submitted to the district coordinator. After submission, the plan will be reviewed by the district coordinator for final approval or revisions and then submitted back to each school and the building staff. Once they are approved, the plan will be posted on the school district website. Both schools and their staff will work with parents/guardians to develop a school-parent compact with the goal of all students reaching their highest potential as a learning in the Piggott School District. The compact will be sent home each year to be signed by parents.

The Piggott School District requires yearly PD for parental involvement and will provide to all staff any resources, new technological information, seminars, workshop or other new cutting edge ideas about the importance of parental involvement. The curriculum coordinator will plan and implement professional development for all administrators, teachers, and relevant staff. The focus of the professional development training will consist of subject matter addressing important topics such as, strategies to enhance parental involvement, why parental involvement is important, needs of parents based on needs assessments, and how to promote two-way communication with parents. Feedback from the parents indicated needs such as reading and science of reading training and blended learning. This data will be used to drive and plan professional development to help train the staff on how to involve and more appropriately help involve parents in the stated areas of need. Also, surveys indicate that parents/guardians are in need of more ways to volunteer in the school district. The school coordinators will create a list of volunteer opportunities, as well as, recruit parents to enlist them in a yearly volunteer training session. This years training will seek to provide more information on how to spend time with their child reading and provide more training on google classroom to help with our blended learning model. The district leadership team will also provide or develop strategies that the schools can use to provide parents information on the district's reading level and ways that parents can assist or seek out information to help our students and district improve our deficit reading scores. To help communicate with the public, the district has created links on the website where parents can find information about the schools curriculum, policies and handbooks, programs, upcoming meetings, parent center information, and all applicable student, faculty, and

handbook information. The Piggott Schools encourages and promotes an atmosphere of regular two-way communication between family members and school staff and if practicable in a language that family/guardians can understand.

*The district will conduct ongoing site visits to observe parental involvement practices. This will be done by the District Level Parent Involvement Team and ESL coordinator.

*District will provide materials and training as available to assist parents in supporting their child's academic achievement.

*The school district will enhance the awareness and skills of teachers, pupil service personnel, principals, and staff in reaching out to, communicating with, and working with parents as equal partners.

*The district will make sure, to the extent possible, that information is sent home in a language and form parents can understand (building principals and ESL district community liaison will be responsible.)

*Provide access to school policies at each school for parents to view, as well as, provide a copy to each parent upon request.

*The district will monitor each Title I, Part-A school to ensure that each school performs the following tasks, the Federal Programs Coordinator will monitor this:

- Develop a Parental Policy.

- Offer flexible meeting times.

- Provide information to parents about the school's program, include parent information guide.

- Develop and use the School-Parent Compact.

- Provide training for parents in working with their child to improve academic achievement, to include training on the phone notification system and computer software program that allows them to have real-time access to their child's attendance and achievement.

- The district will reinforce parenting skills, as feasible, to support the acquisition of academic skills and their application in real-life situations for parent use.

- The district will encourage parents to visit/volunteer at school by assisting staff in developing volunteer opportunities, as well, as training staff to encourage and build volunteer efforts to the extent possible.

- The district will encourage parent participation through innovative scheduling of activities.

- The district will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in staff training.

- The district will hold an annual meeting to inform parents of their school's participation in the development of the parental involvement policy and their right to be involved.

- The Piggott School District will ensure professional development requirements are met for teachers and administrators annually.

- The Piggott School District will provide training annually for volunteers.

3: Building Parent Capacity

Describe how the LEA supports parents in helping with their student's academic success.

Guiding Questions

- **3.1:** How does the LEA provide assistance to parents in understanding the following?
 - the challenging State academic standards
 - State and local academic assessments
 - the requirements of Title I, Part A
 - how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children

[ESSA § 1116(e)(1)]
- **3.2:** What types of materials and training does the LEA provide to help parents work with their children to improve achievement? This may include:
 - literacy training
 - technology training, including education about copyright piracy and safe practices
 - resources that describe or assist with the child's curriculum
 - other activities such as workshops, conferences, online resources like tutorials or webinars, and any equipment or other materials, including parent resource centers

[ESSA § 1116(e)(2); ESSA § 1116(e)(4)]
- **3.3:** In what ways does the LEA conduct outreach to ALL Title I, Part A parents and family members (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background)?

[ESSA § 1116(a)(1)]

The district will provide any reasonable support for parental involvement at the request of parents/guardians of the schools in the district. The district will involve parents through regularly scheduled parent and community engagement meetings and numerous surveys to improve student learning. At these meetings the goal will be to provide parents with types of curriculum being used, assessments, proficiency levels (Reading), and how the schools are doing when compared with other schools both nationally and in the state. Also, these meetings will provide the contact information of the Title I director, the requirements of the program and the parents and guardians rights as they pertain to Title I schools. Materials will be provided to the public and parents over numerous data driven factors that will help improve student learning and success. Topics to be covered will be general parenting skills, literacy training, the importance of student attendance, anti-bullying, technology, and the consequences of vaping. Parents will have access to the schools' media pages links regarding the curriculum and the literacy improvement plan, state standards, and their child's grades.

The Piggott School District, and its respective school buildings, will ensure that an effective communication plan exists with regard to disseminating school-related information to parents and community (national, state, and local educational goals). This effort will include all communication means accessible to the district. They will include, but not limited to:

- School Website and school Facebook pages
- Announcements
- Email
- School Messenger- telephone and text notifications
- Service Newsletters
- District Calendar

*Continue to improve systems for the involvement/engagement of parents. Each school will provide a method by which parents are notified of specific ways in which they can volunteer at school. Diana VanderKooi, Parent Center Coordinator, is responsible for providing this information through packets sent home to parents.

*Involve parents through an annual survey to improve school effectiveness. District personnel, school personnel, and parents will be asked to reflect upon their efforts to have increased involvement of parents, based on improved or expanded methods of volunteerism and engagement activities. Diana VanderKooi, Parent Center Coordinator, is responsible for conducting this survey and collecting the data.

*Provide any reasonable support for parental involvement at the request of participating Title I, Part-A Schools.

*STATE REQUIREMENT- Provide instruction to a parent on how to improve developmentally appropriate learning

activities in the home environment, including with limitation; role play and demonstrating by trained volunteer, the use of and access to the Department of Education website tools for parents, assistance with nutrition meal planning and preparation and other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Department of Education.

*STATE REQUIREMENT- Staff development, the State Board of Education's standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts shall require no fewer than (2) hours of professional development for teachers designed to enhance the understanding of effective parental involvement strategies.

*No fewer than (3) hours of professional development for administrators designed to enhance understanding of effective parent involvement strategies and the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation, rotation of PD hours are required every (5) years.

4: Coordination

Describe how the LEA will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports, services, and resources to families that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

Guiding Questions

- **4.1:** *How does the district coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs? Some examples include:*
 - *public preschool programs such as Head Start*
 - *organizations/activities to help students transition to elementary, middle, high, and postsecondary schools or careers*
 - *wraparound services that allow families to send their children to school ready and able to focus on learning*

[ESSA § 1116(e)(4)]

The Piggott School District consists of a pre-kindergarten, elementary, and high school building plan. The district preschool program is located on the Piggott Elementary campus. Each year the district conducts a step-up program to help with the transitioning of students from the preschool to the elementary. Also, the family and engagement plan encourages and welcomes all parents to take advantage of the transition plan from the elementary campus to the high school. Students and parents/guardians are allowed to tour the campuses and have opportunities to meet with their teachers, administrators, coaches and all relevant staff for the year of transition. Through the CTE program, students are given opportunities to participate in job shadowing with local and regional businesses to help ensure that students can transition into the college and careers world. The district works collaboratively with local colleges to help plan and prepare students for future academic and career opportunities. Through the management of the parent center, the facilitator will provide materials and resources that will assist parents in the much needed parenting skills and educational information to ensure their child's success.

*The Piggott School District conducts the monthly school board meeting on the second Monday of each month in the Administrative Building. These meetings will allow for and encourage community members to give their input and express their concerns regarding district matters.

*Parents of our students are invited and encouraged to serve on the district School Improvement committee. This will help provide opportunities for parents to contribute to the Title I Application.

5: Evaluation and Reservation

Describe how the LEA evaluates the content and effectiveness of its Engagement Program in improving the academic quality of all schools. Describe how the LEA reserves and uses Title I funds for parent and family engagement programs and activities.

Guiding Questions

- **5.1:** *How does the LEA review and approve the Engagement Plan for each school?*
 - *Describe the process used to ensure each school plan is in full compliance with applicable codes.*
[ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 4.03]
- **5.2:** *What process does the LEA utilize to conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Engagement Program?*
 - *Who is responsible?*
 - *When will it be conducted?*
 - *How will parent input be solicited?*
 - *How will it be disseminated?*
 - *Ensure the evaluation of the Engagement Program in Title I schools includes:*
 - *barriers to greater participation by parents (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background)*
 - *the needs of parents and family members to assist with their children's learning, including engaging with school personnel and teachers*
 - *strategies to support successful school and family interactions*
[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(D)(i-iii); A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(9)]
- **5.3:** *How does the LEA use the findings from the evaluation to develop strategies for more effective engagement and to revise, if necessary, parent and family engagement policies in order to improve the academic quality of all schools?*
 - *How will the findings of the evaluation be shared with families and the community?*
[ESSA § 1116(a)(2)(E)]
- **5.4:** *If The LEA is required to set aside funds for parent and family engagement (as part of receiving a Title I, Part A allocation greater than \$500,000),*
 - *How is the LEA spending those funds?*
 - *How is the LEA determining the priority of how funds are spent?*
 - *Who is involved in determining that?*
[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(A)]
- **5.5:** *How does the LEA/school provide opportunities for parents and family members to be involved in providing input into how the funds are used? How will the district share the budget for engagement activities and programs with parents and family members?*
[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(B); ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(C); ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(D)(i-v)]

*Survey parents annually, including questions to identify barriers to parental involvement. In the spring, district, school, and parent representatives will be asked to reflect on their efforts to have increased involvement of parents and targeted patrons based on improved or expanded methods of volunteerism and engagement activities. Ellen Meadows, Jerri Tate, and Dianna VanderKooi will be responsible for using the evaluation findings to assist participating schools.

*Provide an opportunity for the parents to assist in the development of the evaluation procedures, including analysis of data collected.

*A district survey regarding annual parent activities will be disseminated among each building and feedback will be obtained and evaluated for patron approval. The survey will be developed and analyzed through the district parent involvement team and results will be used to revise and design school improvement policies as they relate to parental involvement. Ellen Meadows and Jerri Tate, Parental Involvement Facilitators, will oversee this effort.

*Develop procedures for collecting parent participation documentation through sign-in lists for workshops, meetings, and conferences; schedules; brochures; meeting notes; and other means as appropriate throughout the school year.

*Use findings from evaluation process to:

-Make recommendations to each participating school for parental involvement policy revisions.

-Provide suggestions for designing school improvement policies, as they relate to parental involvement.

-Use parent surveys to obtain input from parents and families on how funding can be used to better engage parents and communities in the engagement process and how it can be best be used to increase involvement. The school improvement committee along with Heather Seegraves will review this data and budget accordingly.

*Ellen Meadows and Jerri Tate, Parental Involvement Facilitators, will lead the district parental team to use the evaluation findings to assist participating schools.

*Develop and disseminate an annual parent activity evaluation report to share with parents, staff, and the community.

*The school will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the parental involvement efforts through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment (survey) filled out by teachers, parents, and school staff. The parental involvement committee, made up of teachers, parents and school staff, will determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement plan and make changes if warranted. While collecting evidence about satisfaction with the program and school's efforts to improve parental involvement will be a part of the evaluation, the survey will also collect specific information on the following:

Growth in number of parents.

Effectiveness of specific strategies.

Engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth.

*The school will also seek to take advantage of community resources, and seek to recruit alumni from school to create an alumni commission to provide advice for school improvement. Teachers in the district that are interested will serve along with other alum in the community. This group will help create more interest and involvement within our district.

*The school district provides opportunity of parents to assist or be involved in the development of the policy through data analysis during the revision of the School's Improvement Plan, Parental Involvement committees, and surveys yearly.

The Piggott School District will review and approve the plan for each new school year.

Assurances

Please read the following statements closely. By checking these boxes, the LEA understands the legal requirements and will meet them accordingly.

☒ **A.1:** LEA understands that by August 1st annually, it must review and update accordingly the District Engagement Plan.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)(1-2)]

☒ **A.2:** LEA understands that the District Engagement Plan should be sent to the State for review in Indistar no later than August 1st. If the plan is returned for revisions, those revisions should be made and the plan sent for an additional review within two weeks.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)]

☒ **A.3:** LEA understands that the District Engagement Plan must be made available to families and the local community on the district website under State Required Information no later than August 1st; if revisions are necessary, the final accepted copy should take its place once available.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)]

✓ **A.4:** LEA understands that a parent-friendly summary/explanation of the Engagement Plan should be included in the current student handbook.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a); ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.02]

✓ **A.5:** LEA understands its obligation for ensuring professional development requirements related to parent and family engagement are met and that records are maintained accordingly. (2 hours every 4 years with 2022 being a required year)

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1703(a); A.C.A. § 6-17-709; Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts July 2020 Standard 4-G.1 Professional Development (D/C)]

✓ **A.6:** LEA understands its obligation to train all volunteers at least annually and be able to provide proof of that training, if requested.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1703(b)]

✓ **A.7:** LEA understands its obligation to obtain signatures for each parent acknowledging receipt of the District's Engagement Plan summary/explanation.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)(3)(B)]

✓ **A.8:** LEA understands its obligation to reserve at least 1 percent of its Title I, Part A allocation for engagement purposes should such total allocation amount to \$500,000 or more. Nothing limits LEAs from reserving more than 1 percent of its allocation for engagement purposes.

[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(A)]

✓ **A.9:** LEA understands that all Title I, Part A funded engagement activities and strategies should remain consistent with all information set forth in this parent and family engagement plan.

[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(D)]

✓ **A.10:** LEA understands its obligation to submit to the State any comments from parents who deem the schoolwide plan unsatisfactory. These comments can be sent to ade.engagementmatters@ade.arkansas.gov.

[ESSA § 1116(b)(4)]

✓ **A.11:** LEA understands its obligation to provide other reasonable support for engagement activities to ensure the effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

[ESSA § 1116(c)(14)]

References

State

- Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-1701 et seq.
- Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Parental Involvement Plans and Family and Community Engagement

Federal

- Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by Every Student Succeeds Act, 114 P.L. 95, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6312, 6318, 6320