

Blytheville Middle School New Tech

Family and Community Engagement Plan 2018 - 2019

Family & Community Engagement Committee Members

Jennifer Spurlock, Chairperson
Teacher

Allison Turner
Community Development Coordinator

Denita White
Instructional Facilitator

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Instructional Facilitator

Mike Wallace
Principal

Dasnee McChristian
Teacher

Mary Jackson
Teacher

Reyna Cunningham
Due Process Coordinator

Sharon Nash
Counselor

Melisa Logan
Parent

Judge Shannon Langston
Parent

Amy Louise Gullic
Parent

Breanna Franklin
Teacher

Blytheville Middle School New Tech

Family & Community Engagement Plan

The Blytheville School District understands the importance of involving parents and the community as a whole in promoting higher student achievement and general good will between the district, its schools and those it serves. Therefore, the Blytheville Middle School New Tech shall strive to develop and maintain the capacity for meaningful and productive parental and community involvement that will result in partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the school, students, parents, and the community.

A certified staff member is appointed at each school in the district to serve as a parent facilitator within that school. The parent facilitators serve on the district committee to annually review the district's family and community engagement plan and actively engage parents and community leaders when appropriate. Parents will be informed of what the children are learning, how they are assessed, what the expectations are, and how as a parent they can help.

Each school in the Blytheville School District will implement a family and community engagement plan including programs to enhance parental involvement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families. The Blytheville School District will give the schools in the district the support necessary to enable them to plan and implement effective parental involvement activities.

The State Board of Education's Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts shall require no fewer than two (2) hours every four years of professional development for teachers designed to enhance the understand of effective parental involvement strategies. No fewer than two (2) 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. Dates for training opportunities will be announced as events are planned and volunteers are needed.

The Blytheville Middle School New Tech's Family and Community Engagement Plan includes but is not limited to the following activities:

1. List various communication strategies used in your school to provide additional information to parents and to increase parental involvement in supporting classroom instruction.

- Get Ready to Excel Achieve and Thrive (G.R.E.A.T) - At the beginning of the school year, school parents and students alike are invited to come and walk through a shortened version of the student's schedules for a meet and greet with teachers and administrators.
- Parents and students will have access to student assignments, projects, classroom activities, grades and daily agendas through an online learning management system called ECHO.
- Parents may use Email to communicate with members of the school staff. There is a staff email directory set up on the school district's home page for parents to access teachers' contact information.
- The school will sponsor a PTO organization that will communicate via social media with parents who are interested in being involved.

- Teachers will routinely contact parents on an individual basis to communicate about their child's progress.
- The school will provide to parents reports/report cards every four weeks with information regarding their child's academic progress and upcoming classroom and school events.
- The school will post notices in school facilities and on social media sites, call-out to parents using school messenger, and provide information for local newspapers about parent meetings.
- The school will use the online student handbook, school Web site, signage at the school entrance, and parent orientation meetings to provide valuable information about school involvement opportunities to parents.
- The district-wide calendar will be made available to parents/guardians which provides information concerning the various schools and school activities.

Responsible parties:

Dasnee McChristian, 870-762-2983

Jennifer Spurlock, 870-762-2983

Sharon Nash, 870-762-2983

David Cooke, 870-762-2053

Allison Turner, 870-762-2053

2. List the proposed parent meeting, conferences and activities regularly throughout this year and the dates providing flexible meeting times that you have planned to increase parental involvement and build staff and parent capacity to engage in these types of efforts. (Must include the 2 state mandated parent/teacher conferences each year.)

- These meetings will include Family Night that provides an opportunity for parents and their children to experience the school situation in a positive and helpful manner while school staff may provide any needed assistance or encouragement.
- The meetings will be held at various times during the day or evening to better accommodate parents.
- Outside speakers will provide parents with more information concerning ways to make their child's academic life more successful.
- The school will hold an orientation for parents at each grade level to inform them about the school's participation in the Title I program and to encourage parents to be involved with reviewing and revising of the School's Title I Plan.
- Teachers will hold conferences individually with parents of children in their classrooms. Parents will be given a summary of the student's test scores and an explanation of the interventions teachers are using to assist the child in reaching achievement goals. Parents will be asked to engage in discussion of how they can support these efforts. Parents will also be given suggestions for coordinating school-parent efforts and explanations of homework and grading procedures.
- The school will offer parents an opportunity each year to provide an explanation of the statewide assessment system, standards, and other accountability measures.
- The school will encourage parents to participate in the some of the following activities to increase their involvement and support for student learning:

Mentor

Teacher assistant

Odyssey of the Mind Team Facilitator

Tutor
Special parent lunches
Field trip volunteers
Family Literacy night
Parent education workshops
Orientation presentations
Open House
Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO)
Step-Up Night
Various committees

Parent-Teacher Conference dates:

September 13 & 18, 2018

November 13 & 15, 2018

February 7 & 12, 2019

April 30 & May 2, 2019

PTO Meetings - Melisa Logan, President

September 10, 2018

October 1, 2018

November 5, 2018

December 3, 2018

January 14, 2019

February 4, 2019

March 4, 2019

April 1, 2019

May 6, 2019

Parental Involvement meetings – Jennifer Spurlock

August 10, 2018

September 10, 2018

April 1, 2019

Parent Orientation (G.R.E.A.T)

August 10, 2018

Responsible Parties:

Scheduling Speakers – Mike Wallace

Inviting Parents – All Teachers

3. How will your school provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities (must include state mandated parent training)?

- The school will work with Blytheville Elementary School and Blytheville High School to help provide a smooth transition from one school to the next by raising parent awareness of procedures and related activities. The school will host special orientation programs for parents and students to help with the transition. Parents will have the opportunity to meet their student's teachers prior to the first day of school.

- The school will solicit a list of volunteers during orientation of parents and will have that list available for teachers.
- Teachers will explain the requirements to parents and encourage them to become involved in the school.
- Brief training sessions will provide parents and community members with the information they need to participate as school volunteers in order to put them at ease and make the experience pleasant and successful.
- **STATE REQUIREMENT** - At the parents request, the school can provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation: role play and demonstration by trained volunteer, the use of and access to the Department of Education website tools for parents, assistance with nutritional 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 two (2) hours of professional development for teachers designed to enhance the understand of effective parental involvement strategies. No fewer than three (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 involvement.

Responsible Parties:

Inviting Parents/Community Members – All Teachers, 870-762-2983

Learning activities instruction for parents (Testing information) - Sharon Nash, Debra Siegler and Denita White, Instructional Facilitators, 870-762-2983

4. How will your school work with parents to create a School-Parent-Compact?

- School staff, parents, and students will develop a school-parent-student compact. This compact will outline how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards. All stakeholders will sign the compact.

Responsible Party - Saron Nash, 870-762-2983

5. How will your school provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of the schoolwide school improvement plan, and the Annual Title I Meeting to engage them in the decision-making processes regarding the school's Title I, Part A Program?

- The school will involve parents on various committees, which may include but is not limited to, building leadership committee and the curriculum/instructional

- review committee. To support this process, the school will offer both school staff and parents training on how to contribute to this process in a meaningful way.
- The school will engage parents in decision making about the allocation of its Title I, Part A funds for parental involvement.
 - STATE REQUIREMENT - To take advantage of community resources, the school shall consider recruiting alumni from the school to create an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement.
 - STATE REQUIREMENT - The school shall enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Association or organization that will foster parental and community involvement within the school.

Responsible Parties - Mike Wallace, 870-762-2983

6. How will your school provide resources for parents?

- Parents may check out materials, use the computer to check grades, and visit educational websites. Parents will be encouraged to view the Title I Plan located in the parent resource center or media center. A suggestion sheet will also be available for parental input. The school will open the resource center at hours that are convenient to parents.
- The school will provide opportunities to utilize existing parent centers. Resources will be made available to parents such as books and magazines on effective ways to work with their student and strategies for effective parenting.
- STATE REQUIREMENT - The school will distributed Informational packets each year that includes a copy of the school's parental involvement plan, survey for volunteer interests, recommended roles for parents/ teachers/students and school, suggestions of ways parents can become involved in their child's education, parental involvement activities planned for the current school year and information about the system that will be used to allow parents and teachers to communicate (notes, phone calls, e-mail...).
- STATE REQUIREMENT - To promote and support responsible parenting, the school shall, as funds are available: Purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials regarding responsible parenting through the school library, advertise the current selection, and give parents the opportunity to borrow the materials for review.
- STATE REQUIREMENT - Include in the school's policy handbook the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions.
- STATE REQUIREMENT - The principal of each school in a school district shall designate (1) certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator.

Responsible Party – Mike Wallace, 870-762-2983

7. How will your school engage parents in the evaluation of your parental involvement efforts?

- The school will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the Title I, Part A Program's parental involvement efforts through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by teachers, parents and school staff. The Title I 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 the school's efforts to increase parental involvement will be a part of the evaluation, the survey will also collect specific information on the (1) growth in number of parents participating in workshops and meetings; (2) specific needs of parents; (3) effectiveness of specific strategies; and (4) engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth.

Responsible Party: Jennifer Spurlock, 870-762-2983

8. How will your school use the parent interest surveys to select, plan and implement parental involvement activities that will be offered throughout the year?

- The school will ask parents to fill out a parent interest survey at registration or at the beginning of each school year to get information from parents concerning the activities they feel will be most beneficial in the efforts to support their child academically.
- The school will use the results of the parent interest survey will be used to help plan the parental involvement activities for the year.
- The school will evaluate the activities that were suggested by the parents at the end of the year as part of the annual parental involvement plan evaluation.

Responsible Party: Jennifer Spurlock, 870-762-2983

Annual evaluation: April 1, 2019

9. When will your school plan the Annual Title I Meeting that must be conducted separately? (It CANNOT be held in conjunction with any other meetings or activities.)

- The school will conduct an Annual Title I Meeting for parents of the students who participate in the Title I, Part A Program.
- The school will hold their annual Title I meeting separate from any other meetings or activities to ensure that they have ample time to provide a description/explanation of school curriculum, information on forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress and information on proficiency level students are expected to meet.
- For each Title I, Part A School, an Annual Title I Meeting must be conducted. The agenda, the sign-in sheet and the minutes for this meeting must be generated separately from any other events and kept on file in the school's office.

Annual Title I Meeting: August 10, 2018

Responsible Party

Kris Williams, District Title I Coordinator, 870-762-2053

Jennifer Spurlock, 870-762-2983



