



ARKADELPHIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN SUMMARY (2023– 2024)

What is Parent and Family Engagement?

Parent and family engagement is the participation of parents and family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication regarding the student’s academic learning and regarding other school activities.

Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) describes the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools to involve parents and family members in the child’s education. Title I, Part A provides for practical parent and family engagement at every level of the program.


Parent and family participation is not a new concept; however, the type of participation has certainly changed. Older federal and state laws emphasized parent involvement. Involvement focused on parents and family members attending events and receiving information. While involvement is still important, these laws shifted to emphasize engagement. Engagement promotes opportunities for parents and family members to identify needs, to set goals, and to make plans alongside school personnel. When school personnel are showing and telling parents and families, that is involvement. When school personnel are asking and responding to parents and families, that is a shift toward engagement.

Parent and family engagement should provide opportunities for each to play an integral, active role as full partners in the child’s education. Whenever appropriate, schools should include parents and families in decision-making, include them as members of advisory committees, and include them in the development and implementation of the district and school plans.

The five sections of Arkadelphia’s District Parent and Family Engagement Plan are summarized on the second page of this document. Additional details including meeting resources, a calendar of events, etc. are available on the *State-Required Information* section of the district website (www.arkadelphiaschools.org).

For more information...

 Website:
www.arkadelphiaschools.org
State-Required Information section

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Please sign, detach and return to verify that you received this summary of the Arkadelphia Public School District’s Parent and Family Engagement Plan in family-friendly language. Thank you.

Parent Signature--Notification Received
Firma del padre--Notificación recibida

Date
Fecha



1

Jointly-Developed Expectations and Objectives...The district committee meets three times annually to collect and to review data from the needs assessment and to compose/revise the district plan. Plans are submitted annually to the Arkansas Department of Education: Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (ADE:DESE). This plan is available on the district's website. The plan is also available in print upon request. Comments from parents who deem the schoolwide plan unsatisfactory will be provided to the superintendent for submission to the appropriate ADE:DESE personnel.



2

Building Staff Capacity... Personnel receive updates addressing: (1) the value and utility of contributions of parents; (2) how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners; (3) how to implement and coordinate parent programs; and (4) how to build ties between parents and the school. District personnel provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support to schools in jointly-developing school parent and family engagement plans, implementing effective parent and family involvement activities, and jointly-developing school-parent compacts.



3

Building Parent Capacity...Based on the needs assessment and feedback from stakeholders, personnel help parents by addressing: (1) the challenging State academic standards; (2) the State and local academic assessments; (3) the requirements of Title I, Part A; and (4) how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children. Announcements, communications, and invitations to events are shared via social media, communication folders, etc. Presentation materials, handouts, and other resources are posted on the district's website when possible. The needs assessment and feedback affect the timing of events, the use of guest speakers, the purchase of supplementary resources, etc.



4

Coordination...Personnel coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs. Personnel encourage partnerships between schools and local businesses to support greater parent, family, and community engagement. District personnel provide informational updates, digital communications, etc. Building personnel encourage and support parents. Each campus has a Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFaCE) Committee coordinated by the building facilitator. Building personnel use the needs assessment and feedback to determine and to prioritize the options for the campus. Parent resource centers offer digital and physical resources depending on the needs of the campus. Each building facilitator works with stakeholders to review and to provide potential resources.



5

Evaluation and Reservation...When the district receives more than \$500,000 in Title I funding, it reserves at least a minimum of 1% of the Title I, Part A allocation for parent and family engagement with 90% going to Title I, Part A schools and with priority given to "high-need" schools. Parents and families are informed about plans, budgets, decision-making, etc. using face-to-face and digital approaches including: (1) Title I Building-Level Meeting in the fall semester; (2) Superintendent's Annual Report to the Public; (3) monthly financial updates to the Board of Education; (4) Title I District-Level Meeting in the spring semester; and (5) posted materials and resources in the State-Required Information section of the district website.