



Paragould High School Paragould, Arkansas

Mission Statement

The mission of Paragould High School (PHS) is to create a community of empowered teachers and engaged students in a safe atmosphere embedded in mutual respect. Using interactive instruction and current technology, all students will transition into adult life ready for college, vocational education, or the workforce.

Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2019-2020

Act 307 of 2007 (Amended Act 603 of 2003)

Joshua Shepherd, Principal

Tim Parrott, Assistant Principal

Matt McGowan, Assistant Principal

PHS promotes and encourages a welcoming atmosphere that encourages parental involvement. The school and all persons involved acknowledge that parents play an integral role in assisting student learning as full partners. Research has shown that parent involvement is an asset that results in increased student success, increased parent and teacher satisfaction, and overall improvement in the school climate.

PHS provides the following opportunities for parents and families to be informed and involved in their youth's education:

Communication Strategies

- PHS employs a certified teacher as **parent center facilitator**. Sara Dickey works with parents and community members to provide for student needs. She may be reached by phone at 870-240-2271 ext. 6014, or by email at sdickey@paragouldschools.net.

- Parent center **newsletters**; the school student publication, the RamPage; the Home Access Center (HAC); a calendar of events and activities; and parenting tips such as homework helps, organizational skills, and study skills assist our students in learning at home and at school.
- The Paragould School District (PSD) **website** (paragould.k12.ar.us) posts information for parents and students, including a password protected link to HAC, which is exclusively for parents, students, and faculty. Parents and students may use their provided password to access district and school news, instructional assistance, student assignments, student absences, and student grades.
- The PSD **Ram Channel 27** airs on local TV, giving curricular and extra-curricular announcements, calendar dates of important events such as parent teacher conferences, and congratulations of student, parent, faculty, and community accomplishments and acknowledgements.
- **The PSD App** allows administrators to notify every student, parent, and staff member in the district of important announcements at various times throughout the year. Faculty members may use it to send notifications to parents and student groups. The app may be accessed on a smartphone, tablet, or computer.
- **Report cards** will be given or sent to parents at the end of each quarter, along with achievement test scores as they are available. Progress reports will be given or sent to parents four times a year.
- Parents will be asked to participate in **parent interest and volunteer surveys**. They will be available at parent teacher conferences and online all year (paragould.k12.ar.us).

Parent and Teacher Trainings, Conferences, and Opportunities

- **Seminars** for parents are provided during the school year to give instruction on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment.
- The school will **encourage parents to volunteer**, attend and/or participate in roles such as orientation presentations, committee meetings, Red Ribbon Week, field day, parent education workshops, the first parental involvement meeting (formerly referred to as open house), awards ceremonies, teacher assistants, and **parent school organizations** such as, but not limited to clubs, band, athletics, choir, and JROTC. Brief **training sessions for volunteers** are conducted as needed for instruction and to put them at ease as they volunteer in the school.
- An **annual public meeting** will be held for parents, faculty, and community members in fall 2019. Attendees will be informed of student learning, assessment methods, and educational expectations.
- A minimum of two **parent teacher conferences** will be conducted during the school year: September 19, 2019; November 14, 2019; February 6, 2020; and April 23, 2020 are the 2019-2020 conference dates.
- PHS teachers and administrators are required to participate in a minimum of two (2) hours of **parental involvement professional development**.

Parent Resource Center

- PHS maintains a **parent center with current parenting information**. Parenting magazines, books, pamphlets, and handouts are available for checkout and/or as free materials. All resources are designed to help the teens of PHS succeed in school.
- In the student handbook and ACSIP (the school improvement plan), PHS includes the process for approaching and **resolving parental concerns**. Students are given a handbook as requested at the beginning of the school year, and it is accessible on the school website, paragould.k12.ar.us. Click on "Menu," then "For Parents," then "Parent Involvement Plan." To locate something in particular, push Control F on a PC or Command F on a Mac computer, then put in the search term to find what you need quickly.
- A **resource book with volunteers** from a parent and community member pool will be solicited for the parent center and also sent to teachers as volunteers are needed.
- PHS has available **informational packets** that include the parent involvement plan; survey of volunteer interests; recommended roles for parents, faculty, and students; suggested ways parents may become involved in their youth's education; parental involvement activities planned for the year; and means of communicating with the school available to parents.

Decision Making

- The school will enable, as there is interest, the formation and maintenance of a **parent teacher organization and/or an alumni organization**. Persons involved will help set the direction of school improvement and specific needs of student programs to promote achievement.
- Seminars will be provided for parents and students to inform them of **decision making** affecting course selection, career planning, college/vocational school, and/or scholarship opportunities.
- The Parental Involvement/Community Outreach Committee will conduct an **annual review of the effectiveness of the school's parent involvement plan**. The committee will review parent survey data, evaluate programs and activities, and make recommendations for improvement. An annual parent evaluation report will be shared with parents, staff, and the community. PHS is committed to providing other programs and activities as deemed necessary, to assist in the successful education of all students.

Note: All parental involvement materials can and will be provided in the family's native language as requested.