

District Parent and Family Engagement Plan

District Name:	Pocahontas Public School District
Coordinator Name:	Bridget L. Phelps
Plan Review/Revision Date:	8/19/2019
District Level Reviewer, Title	Lesla Grooms, Assistant Superintendent

Committee Members, Role:

First Name	Last Name	Position
Jerry	Martens	Superintendent
Bridget	Phelps	District Test Coordinator, Counselor & Support Coordinator
Michael	McCurry	High School Principal
Mack	Skelton	Junior High School Principal
Shannon	Fish	Intermediate School Principal
Shawn	Carter	Elementary School Principal

Committee Members, Role:

First Name	Last Name	Position
Kim	Guthrie	Federal Programs Coordinator
Pat	Johnson	Community Representative
Kathleen	Fleming	ESOL Coordinator
Charla	Cusson	Parent
Jennifer	Clay	Parent/Community Member
Robin	Brown	Classified Staff/School Nurse

1: Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

The Pocahontas Public School District (PPSD) Parent and Family Engagement Plan is developed and disseminated on an annual basis and will be submitted to the Department of Education on or before August 1, 2019. The policy is found on the district website and paper copies are available in each of the buildings. The Pocahontas Parent and Family Engagement Policy and additional relevant information are located in building libraries within the section stocked especially for parents. Both printed (English & Spanish) and audio materials can be read in the library or checked out to parents. A public service announcement on the local radio station informs parents that the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan is available in each library.

PPSD will obtain signatures for each parent/guardian acknowledging receipt of the Parent and Family Engagement Plan summary as part of the pupil policies handbook.

Jerry Martens will facilitate the annual meeting on September 16, 2019. This will allow a review of the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan and invite conversation about areas of possible improvement. This will also serve to update the policy for next year's Title I, Part A program.

Contact information:

- Jerry Martens, 2300 N Park Street, Pocahontas, AR 72455. Phone (870)892-4573 ext. 5000
- Bridget Phelps, 2301 N. Park Street, Pocahontas, AR 72455 Phone (870)892-4573 ext. 5007

Jerry Martens will be responsible for inviting directors and supervisors of every local early childhood programs to participate in age-appropriate activities. Every event will vary but will include both parents and children.

Names of Parental Parent and Family Engagement Facilitators:

- Alma Spikes Elementary: Shawnee Dubois
- MD Williams Intermediate: Shannon Barr
- PJHS: Taftnee Cox
- PHS: Karen Johnson

Bridget Phelps will conduct an annual overview of the effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement policy on May 18, 2019. The committee members listed above will look at each goal, discuss the effectiveness, and come to a consensus on changes that make the Parent and Family Engagement plan "user-friendly" for parents, students, and district patrons. The focus will be an overview of parental involvement under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015. In addition, parents are included in multiple committees. Among the committees on which parents are invited to serve ACSIP, AdvancedED, Health and Wellness, Prom, Project Graduation, and field trips. PPSD will work with the ESOL Coordinator to ensure adequate representation of parents and families or participating children are represented.

Jerry Martens manages Title I, Part A. The total District Title I Budget is \$606,969.77. We have allocated approximately 5%, \$32,425.20, for Parent and Family Engagement.

2: Building Staff Capacity through Training and Technical Assistance

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

Bridget Phelps will be responsible for conducting ongoing site visits to ABC, Headstart, and St. Paul Elementary. Visits will document observed Parent and Family Engagement practices at each site.

Bridget Phelps will assist Parent and Family Engagement Coordinators to assist teachers, pupil service personnel, principals, and staff in reaching out to, communicating with, and working with parents as equal partners.

Bridget Phelps will work with the ESOL Coordinator, counselors, teachers, first contact persons, language facilitators, and principals to ensure that printed information is sent home in a language and in a form that parents can understand and that assistance is available for conversation if English is not spoken.

Superintendent, Jerry Martens, as well as the principal of each building, will be responsible for making sure that each Title I school has a current Parent and Family Engagement Plan.

Bridget Phelps and/or Jerry Martens and/or Adam Hand (educational technology coordinator) will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support to PPSD in:

- ✓ jointly-developing school parent and family engagement plans
- ✓ implementing effective parent and family involvement activities
- ✓ jointly-developing school-parent compacts

Jerry Martens will ensure professional development requirements are met for teachers and administrators:

- Require minimum professional development hours for teachers and administrators
- Provide training at least annually for volunteers

3: Building Parent Capacity

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

The district has a group of parents and patrons that make up the "Closing the Achievement Gap" committee. The purpose of this committee is to analyze data and empirical evidence from the classroom, NWEA MAP testing, Individual Education Plans, and state assessment data.

The principal and the respective, named Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator/s for each building are responsible for developing a parent engagement group at each building. The committee

then plans and implements appropriate activities and events. Building principals and building involvement coordinator/s will ensure that parents of Title I students are informed of the Title I entitled services.

Bridget Phelps will be responsible for conducting a survey in the spring that is distributed to parents. The perceptual survey will allow parents to provide feedback to the Parent and Family Engagement Committee concerning the effectiveness of the activities and actions during the year.

Superintendent Jerry Martens will be the person responsible for requests concerning additional support.

4: Reservation and Evaluation

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

Bridget Phelps will be responsible for creating and distributing an annual survey using Google Forms. The survey will be constructed so that it allows participants to express their perception of barriers that hinder them from becoming more involved in their student engagement.

A district committee, "Closing the Achievement Gap" is in place that looks at student performance, including test data within groups to determine possible areas of underserved students. Connecting with parents of these students is critical to gain support for improved performance. The group identifies methods that may have bearing on performance. Not only are parents included as committee members but they contribute a valuable viewpoint that is not necessarily a "school" perspective.

Superintendent Jerry Martens and building principals are responsible for distributing the survey findings and following through with suggestions made and recommendations that are pertinent and possible regarding student performance and changes that would improve the District's Parent and Family Engagement Plan.

Superintendent Jerry Martens or his designee is responsible for the dissemination of the yearly Parent and Family Engagement Plan to each student household. Any changes will replace irrelevant materials and current information will be included in the plan so that parents can be fully informed of the plan.

5: Coordination

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

Pocahontas District ACSIP committee members are invited by Superintendent Jerry Martens, Alma Spikes Elementary Principal Shawn Carter invites members for his committee, MD Williams Principal Shannon Fish invites members for his committee, Pocahontas Junior High Principal Mack Skelton invites members for his committee, and High School Principal Michael McCurry invites members for his committee. Members of the committee will collaborate and come to a consensus on the final report as it is developed prior to its delivery to district patrons.