



Excellence in Education

2020-2021 Parent and Family Engagement Plan

The Greenwood School District has developed jointly with our parents a written parental policy that is designed to encourage our parents and school to reach out to form strong relationships with each other. We seek additional involvement of parents in support of every phase of their child's education.

Greenwood Public Schools will foster effective parent and family engagement strategies and support partnerships among school, parents, and the community to improve student achievement by:

Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives

The Parent / Family survey results from the 2019-2020 school year indicated that 93.4% of participants responded they were engaged with their child's teacher(s).

The Greenwood School District will continue involve parents in a meaningful way in the development of the district parent and family engagement plan, the School Improvement Plan, and the Title I Targeted Assistance Plan. This involvement will include:

- Recruiting parents to serve on the district Parent and Family Engagement Committee and the School Improvement Committee.
- Recruiting parents for a district Parent Advisory Committee, which is the Greenwood Education Foundation, under the direction of JoElla Skaggs, Foundation Chair.
- Encouraging the formation of partnerships between the district and local businesses that includes roles for parents.
- Involving parents through an annual survey to improve district effectiveness, under the direction of building level chairs and Assistant Superintendent, Suzy Wilson.
- Establishing expectations and objectives for meaningful involvement, reflecting the specific needs of students and families

The district will make the district parent and family engagement plan available to families and the local community. It will file the plan with the State by August 1, place a copy on the website by August 1, and place a parent-friendly summary of the plan as a supplement to the student handbook. Under the direction of building principals, the district will also obtain signatures of parents acknowledging receipt of the plan on the handbook acknowledgement form.

Parent and families will be involved in the decisions regarding how funds reserved for parent and family engagement are allotted for parent involvement activities. Parents will be surveyed annually about activities which are desired and whether they participated in planned activities. In addition, parent input will be sought at committee meetings and at the annual Title I parent meeting.

The district will conduct an annual evaluation to identify barriers, needs, and strategies. This evaluation will be a component of the parent survey. The findings of the evaluation will be disaggregated at the Spring district parent and family engagement meeting. Decisions based on the findings will guide future strategies for more effective parent and family engagement.

The district will ensure adequate representation of parents and families of participating children in the process.

The district will submit to the State the comments from parents who deem the schoolwide plan unsatisfactory. At the Annual Title I Parent Meeting, procedures for submitting complaints will be explained.

Building Staff Capacity through Training and Technical Assistance

The Greenwood School District will build staff capacity through training and technical assistance.

The district will ensure professional development requirements are met for teachers and administrators by having staff keep records of professional development, completing evaluations of professional development, and recording professional development acquisition annually. Assistant Superintendent Suzy Wilson will oversee the record keeping of all professional development activities. The professional development activities will include scheduled activities as required by ACT 969 of 2013, which includes Parent Involvement every four years.

The Greenwood School District will surpass the required state mandate of 36 hours professional development and require each certified staff member to obtain 60 hours professional development. Embedded professional development dates for the 20-21 school year will include January 4, 2021, and February 22, 2021.

New staff, both certified and classified will be required to attend New Staff Orientation on July 29-30. One component of this training will be effective parent and family engagement procedure and requirements.

August 13, 2020 will be required professional development for both certified and classified staff and includes collaboration with parent and community stakeholders.

The district will 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-student compacts. Parents and school staff will serve and jointly develop school, parent, and family plans as well as school-parent-student compacts. Schools will provide numerous activities for parent and family involvement including One Book, One District activities and Leadership Day / Night. Parent Involvement funds will be used to provide support for One Book, One District activities as well as to provide a portion of the cost of School Status, which is a meaningful, two-way communication and data platform. The use of funds will be monitored by Superintendent John Ciesla and Federal Coordinator Teresa Rose.

The district will train teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents in: 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. Specifically, teachers and instructional personnel will be trained on Google Classroom and School Status in order to facilitate a flexible learning environment that is user-friendly to both students and families.

Parents will serve an active role on various committees throughout the district. Parent input will be solicited via annual surveys and survey results will be evaluated annually. Multiple methods of communication are provided to ensure parents are an integral part of the district and include websites, newsletters, Remind, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Peach Jar E-Flyers, email, etc. The district will also allow the formation of PTO and booster clubs and actively involve these groups in school events and decision-making.

The district will provide training annually for volunteers and utilize volunteers in a variety of ways to foster student achievement. The volunteer opportunities are numerous and include, PTO workday, guest speakers, in-class assistance, preparing materials, volunteer coaching duties, etc.

The district will place a parent-friendly summary of the district PFE plan in the student handbook. Parents will acknowledge receipt of the plan on the Handbook Form.

The district will strive to ensure information is sent in a language and format parents and families can understand.

Building Parent Capacity

The Greenwood School District will build parent capacity.

The Parent / Family Survey results from the 2019-2020 school year, indicated that 92.6% of participants responded they favored the Remind App as an overall favorite method of communication.

The district will provide assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, Part A and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

Prior to school beginning each year, Orientation will be held on each campus to discuss this information. In addition, the Annual Title I Parent Meeting will be held each year in October. In addition, two Parent Teacher Conferences will be held annually. In the event these activities cannot be held in person due to the current pandemic, all measures will be taken to provide families with detailed information via social media, mailings, website, etc. Teachers and administrators strive to foster relationships with parents in order to aid in student academic success.

The district will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement. This training will include literacy training, technology training, parenting workshops, and CAP / Leadership / Curriculum Day / Night.

The district will provide other reasonable support for parent involvement activities using suggestions given by parents or needs identified by parents. The district will utilize Parent Involvement funds to partially fund specific activities, such as One Book, One School. In addition, the district will also use Title I funds to implement School Status, a new, two-way parent /family and teacher communication and data platform. These activities will be monitored by Superintendent John Ciesla in conjunction with Federal Coordinator Teresa Rose

Reservation and Evaluation

The Greenwood School will reserve at least 1% of the district allocation under Title I, Part A for parent and family engagement activities because the district receives an allocation of \$500,000 or more. In addition, 100% of these funds will be used at the school level with priority given to high-need schools. Therefore, Westwood Elementary and East Pointe Elementary will receive the majority of funds with the remainder allocated to East Hills Middle School.

Parent and families will be involved in the decisions regarding how funds reserved for parent and family engagement are allotted for parent involvement activities. Parents will be surveyed annually about activities that are desired and whether they participated in planned activities. In addition, parent input will be sought at committee meetings and at the annual Title I parent meeting.

The district will ensure the funded activities and strategies are consistent with the district parent and family engagement policy.

The district will conduct an annual evaluation to identify barriers, needs, and strategies. This evaluation will be a component of the parent survey. The findings of the evaluation will be disaggregated at the Spring building and district parent and family engagement meetings. The District, along with parent and community input, will use the finding from the evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement.

The district will review and approve the Parent and Family Engagement Plan for each school prior to the plan being submitted to the state by required dates and prior to the plan being placed on the website.

The district will review and update the district plan by August 1.

Coordination

The Greenwood School District will coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other Federal, State, and Local programs. Some of these programs include the public library summer reading program, various faith institutions for family resources, Community Clearinghouse Back Pack program and One Book, One School which involves the community. Various faith communities and other community resources will assist with needs such as food, clothing, household items, etc.

The district will house a Parent Center and will provide parenting materials that encourage and support parents. In addition, the parent center will provide food for needy parents.

Effective programs are in place at each school to ensure a smooth transition between grades as well as to post-secondary schools or careers. The transitions are closely monitored by building principals and Assistant Superintendent Kevin Hesslen.