

Hillcrest School District
Parent and Family Engagement Plan

Committee Members

Beth Maxwell, Parent Coordinator
Mickel Smith, Principal, Federal Programs
Rachael Netrefa, Josh Smith, Assistant Principals
Shawn Rose, Principal
Lana Doyle, School Parent Coordinator
Sharon Oliver, Melissa Fortenberry, Teachers
Heather Nunnally, Courtney Turner, Parents

1: Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives

- Hillcrest School District understands the importance of involving parent and community in the development of the district parent and family engagement plan, schoolwide program plans, and improvement plans. We reach out to parents, community, and other stakeholders for feedback in and input on our family engagement and other school plans and programs.
- Expectations and objectives are written and implemented for the purpose of meaningful involvement. Specific needs of students and families are reflected in the expectations and objectives. Expectations and objectives will be pulled from the FACE Framework and supporting documents.
- The District makes the parent and family engagement plan available to the parents, families and community by: making it part of our informational packets at each school, posting it to the district's website. This will be done by August 1, 2020. The District also has a summary of the plan in the student handbook for which the parents sign.
- The Hillcrest School district does not receive more than 500,000 and therefore do not have reserved funds
- The District plan is evaluated based on survey results received from staff as well as parents and community. This evaluation will be done in the spring once we have gathered all survey results.
- The Hillcrest School District is a schoolwide Title 1 school. Since all students are included, we include parents and staff from across buildings and grade spans.
- The parent and family engagement plan is created in efforts to positively affect student achievement and help address the goals set forth in the schoolwide plan.
- As part of the schoolwide plan we submit comments to the State when parents deem the plan unsatisfactory.

2: Building Staff Capacity through Training and Technical Assistance

- The Hillcrest School District works with individual schools and their respective administration to ensure that teachers and administration meet Professional Development requirements

- The District parent and family engagement committee is formed from members of the school committees so that we can work jointly in: Providing feedback and consultation during the development of the school plans, making sure both campuses are continuing to implement effective parent and family involvement activities, and also provide input on the school/parent compacts.
- Prior to the beginning of each school year, the district provides joint professional development sessions involving both campus. During those sessions all teachers, instructional staff, school leaders and other staff are trained involving the value of parents, how we can utilize expertise of parents, communications with parents, coordinating and planning parent programs, and the importance of building ties between parents and the school
- The District documents the required 2 hour parental involvement hours for both teachers and administration
- Training for parents who volunteer is provided as needed through handout(s) regarding best practices for the specific types of volunteers.
- A parent-friendly summary of the district parent and family engagement plan is included in the student handbook. All parents sign the handbook acknowledging receipt of the plans and policies found therein.
- All forms of communication regarding the family and community engagement plans are presented in a language and format that parents and families can understand.

3: Building Parent Capacity

- The Hillcrest School District works to help the schools provided needed assistance to parents. This assistance can be helping to understand the academic standards, assessments, and how parents can work with educators to improve the achievement of their children. The district fosters collaboration on the part of both schools so that these efforts in aiding our parents are both consistent and timely.
- Each school has a parent facilitator, as well as a parent center coordinator. These staff members work together to find or develop resources and materials as needed.
- Teachers, parents/guardians, and family members can request materials, resources and/or training from the parent facilitators. Such supports are provided on an as needed basis.
- The district works to allow more flexibility in meeting times and formats to help improve parental involvement. With technology advances that the district has in place, the schools are able to utilize many different formats to enable parent participation regarding student academics/progress and/or other parental activities. The district encourages district leaders to ensure staff are able to meet with parents concerning their child during the school day if deemed necessary.

4: Reservation and Evaluation

- N/A The Hillcrest school district receives an allocation of less than \$500,000, and therefore the first three items under the requirements do not apply.

- During the spring of each year, the district committee will conduct an annual evaluation based on survey and feedback data throughout the year. This evaluation will identify barriers, needs, and strategies to improving parental involvement.
- This evaluation will result in creating evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement.
- Each school's plan will be reviewed and approved by the district prior to the end of the school year.
- After reviewing evaluation results and the individual school plans, the district plan will be reviewed and revised to better support our schools. This revision will be completed prior to the end of the school year so that the plan can be posted on the website by August 1 of each year.

5: Coordination

- The District approves and or helps coordinate programs from various Federal, State, and local agencies. These programs and agencies included but are not limited to: UACCB college and career center (concurrent credit) , Virtual Arkansas (electives, concurrent credit), mental health agencies, (counseling), Lawrence County Law enforcement (SRO), Myers Davis (transitional/workforce class) Dept. of Human Services (before and after school childcare), Lawrence county (Ralph Joseph Leadership Academy, Arkansas Game and Fish (shooting sports, archery), NEA Coop ABC (preschool), Lynn Library (summer reading program), Bank of Cave City (sponsorship of activities)
- The district ensures that parent resource centers are provided on both campuses to provided needed support for our parents.