

Meekins Middle School - 2022-23 Family and Community Engagement Plan

1: Jointly Developed

Meekins Middle School involves families, parents, and community to develop our plan by serving on the Family and Community Engagement Committee. Meekins Middle School serves 5th and 6th grade students, therefore we have no less than 1 parent from each grade level and one community member. The committee is also composed of other school stakeholders. Families are provided with Volunteer Interest Surveys in the Beginning of the Year packets. This information is housed in a central location and utilized to encourage involvement and assess the needs of families for best ways to communicate and best times for meeting. Families are also encouraged to participate in surveys during the second semester to judge areas of strengths and weaknesses.

Meekins Middle School utilizes a wide variety of communication strategies such as; Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, school website, school app, PBIS app, and letters home in multiple languages. Meekins Middle School wants to provide a safe, supportive and collaborative environment in our schools where not only do students feel safe to participate, but parents feel safe to participate in the student's education as well.

2: Communication

Meekins Middle School has developed a system for the school level facilitator(s) and corresponding committee for creation of school-level engagement plans. This committee mirrors similarly the district level committee by including teachers, staff, community members, and, of course, parents.

Meekins Middle School provides a packet to families that include informational materials relating to school supplies, grade level expectations, and tools for helping their students be successful in the 5th and 6th grade. These informational materials are provided in more than one language. Informational graphics are added to the school social media, website, and app to be more user friendly. This also refers to all communication provided to families for all family and community engagement activities.

All stakeholders will review and sign the Teacher/Parent/Student Compact that outlines the roles and responsibilities of each person to ensure social, emotional, and academic success.

Families will be provided with a semester list of family and community engagement activities, as well as volunteer activities for families to actively participate. Meekins Middle School strives to provide multiple opportunities for family and community engagement by providing no less than one engagement/volunteer opportunity per month. Through the volunteer interest survey and sign ups at Open House, families are able to express specifically which activities they would like to be involved with at our school.

Our community members are encouraged to engage with Meekins Middle School through activities such as, Weekly Mystery Reader, Guest Speaking, Real Men Read, One School, One Book, Summer Bookmobile, Back to School Bash, etc.

Faculty and Staff will provide families with opportunities for regular, two-way communication through phone calls, email, and text messaging regarding student successes and concerns. A parent communication log will be utilized to provide evidence of meaningful communication.

All communication is provided in a plethora of ways to meet the needs of all families. One can never share information too many ways or times. Families receive communication through notes, social media, school website, school app, PBIS app, and the local radio station. The ESL Coordinator will translate all communication for families to ensure equity.

Meekins Middle School will offer a variety of times during the day and evening to better accommodate families (eg. What's Next Night for incoming 5th graders, Coffee with the Counselor, Lunch with Leadership).

3: Building Staff Capacity

Describe activities that will be used with School staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners.

Meekins Middle School principal and the Stuttgart School District Professional Development Committee shall require no fewer than two (2) hours of professional development for teachers designed to enhance the understanding of effective parental involvement strategies and no fewer than three (3) hour of professional development for administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation every four (4) years according to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Meekins Middle School Family and Community Engagement Committee will hold monthly meetings to review the school plan, make suggestions, and provide the rest of the staff and families with pertinent information and opportunities for comment regarding the school plan and activities.

Meekins Middle School, Park Avenue Elementary, and Stuttgart Junior High School principals and counselors will work cooperatively to provide a smooth transition from one school to the next by raising parental awareness of procedures and related activities. The school will host special orientations programs for families and students to help with the transition. Families will have the opportunity to tour the school facility prior to the beginning of the upcoming school year and ask the teachers questions. (What's Next Night for incoming 5th grade, Open House for 5th and 6th grade).

All staff will be trained in the expectations and utilization of Positive Behavior and Intervention Support (PBIS), Accelerated Reader (AR), Home Access Center (HAC), iReady, Google Classroom, Ready Math, Engage New York, etc. In the same manner training will be provided to families regarding student achievement and behavior expectations. Training will be provided at different times of the

year, as well as times of the day. Recorded training videos will be made available to families.

Staff and family resources will include the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions that have been developed by the School Handbook Committee.

The principal of MMS will designate one certified staff member to serve as the building level Family and Community Engagement Coordinator.

4: Building Parent Capacity

Describe how the School provides opportunities to build parents' capacity to play a role in their children's academic success.

Meekins Middle School will provide the opportunity for families to understand the requirements of Title I and how to monitor their child's progress to improve achievement through our annual Title I meeting, social media, and information sent home as appropriate and needed throughout the year. All staff will be trained in the expectations and utilization of Positive Behavior and Intervention Support (PBIS), Accelerated Reader (AR), Home Access Center (HAC), iReady, Google Classroom, Ready Math, Engage New York, etc. In the same manner training will be provided to families regarding student achievement and behavior expectations. Training will be provided at different times of the year, as well as times of the day. Recorded training videos will be made available to families.

Families will be provided interim reports halfway through each nine weeks period and report cards will be provided every nine weeks by classroom teachers. Teachers notify who have at-risk students who are failing to achieve proficiency on classwork, diagnostic testing, and standardized testing.

Meekins Middle School staff sponsor and encourage families to attend Open House, PTO Meetings, and other activities related to their student's achievements.

Meekins Middle School hosts an awards assembly each semester to showcase student achievements.

Families and community members are welcome to participate in volunteer opportunities through PTO or other school programming (eg. Real Men Read, Bring Someone You Love to Lunch, National Walk at Lunch Day, Tacky Sweater Dance, Mystery Readers, Pi(e) Night, Fall Into Literacy, What's Next Night, Maker Faire, One Book, One School, etc.)

In the Spring, a meeting will be held by the SJHS Principal and Counselor to explain the course offerings at the Stuttgart Junior High School.

The principal will enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Organization that will foster family and community involvement within the school.

Families and community members will be asked to serve on decision making committees, such as the Family and Community Engagement Committee and the School Handbook Committee.

To promote and support responsible parenting, the principal shall authorize the purchase, as funds are available, for parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials through the Family Resource Center. The purchased items will be advertised to families. Families will also have the opportunity to check out materials and to use the computer to research best practices for families as it relates to their student's school lives. A Family Resource Center is located at MMS and will be maintained by the school counselor and the Family and Community Engagement Coordinator for MMS.

A Family Satisfaction Survey will be distributed during the 2nd Semester Parent-Teacher Conferences to assess the strengths and weaknesses of our school Family and Community Engagement program. All results will be used to plan family and community engagement activities for the upcoming school year.

5: Coordination

Describe how the School will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners, including alumni, to provide additional supports, services, and resources to families.

Meekins Middle School coordinates with other organizations and businesses to provide additional support and resources. Our school is provided with resources from local corporation, Lennox Industries, to provide after school clubs focused on STEM Education. Through partnership with C.O.P.Y., all students within our school are provided with necessary supplies to begin the school year. Also in collaboration with the Arkansas Food Bank, students participate in the Backpack Program to combat food insecurities. Local area restaurants and churches provide resources and support to students and teachers by providing food certificates to award student achievements, as well as recognize teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. We have several families and business individuals that participate in school wide programs, such as Real Men Read, One School, One Book program, Weekly Mystery Reader, Guest Speaking. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission has provided training to teachers to implement an Archery program within our school. They provide educational programs to our school for free. Our local civic organizations, Rotary and Lions Club, donate resources to the Summer Bookmobile program.

Meekins Middle School, Park Avenue Elementary, and Stuttgart Junior High School principals and counselors will work cooperatively to provide a smooth transition from one school to the next by raising parental awareness of procedures and related activities. The school will host special orientations programs for families and students to help with the transition. Families will have the opportunity to tour the school facility prior to the beginning of the upcoming school year and ask the teachers questions. (What's Next Night for incoming 5th grade, Open House for 5th and 6th grade).

The principal will enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Organization that will foster family and community involvement within the school.

6: Annual Title I Meeting

Meekins Middle School Principal will conduct an annual Title I Meeting in September 2022 for families of the students who participate in the Title I program. Families will be notified by letter informing them of the school's status, what that status means, and their rights as outlined by the policies established by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. In addition, the school principal will hold an annual meeting to give families a report on the state of the school and to review what students will be learning and how students will be assessed.

7: School-Parent Compact

School staff, parents, families, and students will develop in a compact. This compact will outline how parents, families, school staff, and students share the responsibility from improving student academic achievement and the means by which the school and families will work in partnership to help students achieve high academic standards. All Stakeholders will sign the compact.

- Meekins Middle School staff utilizes eSchool for recording student attendance and grades. Families will be provided the Home Access Center login by the student's homeroom teacher to monitor student progress.
- Two parent teacher conferences are held each year. One during the first nine weeks period, and the other during the third nine weeks period. Teachers will meet with families to explain student performance, grade level expectations, and assessments.
- Teachers will notify families who have at-risk students who are failing to achieve proficiency in classwork, diagnostic testing, and standardized testing and review that information with them.

8: Reservation of Funds

Meekins Middle School will ensure parents and families are involved in the decisions regarding how funds reserved for parent and family engagement are allotted for parent engagement activities. These decisions are discussed in our annual engagement meetings that are held at the end of each year where all stakeholders are invited and encouraged to be present. Ideas are gathered. Meekins Middle School will ensure the funded activities and strategies are consistent with the district parent and family engagement policy and community. Monies are spent on, but not limited to:

- "Fall Into Literacy" Night
- Pi(e) Night
- Back to School Bash
- Open House

- What's Next Night
- MMS 5K Color Run
- One School, One Book program
- Parent Center Resources

Committee Members, Role

First Name	Last Name	Role <i>(Teacher, Staff, Parent, Student, or Community Member)</i>
Julie	Eldridge	Counselor
Cloud	Jacobs	5th Grade Teacher
Jeannie	Bormann	6th Grade Teacher
Cole	Sherman	5th Grade Parent
Kyla	Neasley	Community Member/ 6th Grade Parent

District Reviewer Responses

Section 1 - Jointly Developed

- Changes Required
- Compliance is Met

[Text box for responses]

Section 2 - Communication

- Changes Required
- Compliance is Met

[Text box for responses]

Section 3 - Building Staff Capacity

- Changes Required
- Compliance is Met

[Text box for responses]

Section 4 - Building Parent Capacity

- Changes Required
- Compliance is Met

[Text box for responses]

Section 5 - Coordination

- Changes Required
- Compliance is Met

[Text box for responses]

Section 6 - Annual Title I Meeting

- Changes Required
- Compliance is Met

[Text box for responses]

Section 7 - School-Parent Compact

- Changes Required
- Compliance is Met

[Text box for responses]

Section 8 - Reservation of Funds

- Changes Required
- Compliance is Met

[Text box for responses]