

2019-2020 Midland School District Parent, Family and Community Engagement Plan

The Midland School District understands the importance of involving parents and community in its efforts to promote higher student achievement and positive relationships between the district and those it serves. The district, Midland High School and Midland Elementary have developed Parental & Community Engagement Plans, including programs and practices that work to enhance parental and community engagement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families at each campus.

The MSD Parental & Community Engagement Plan, comprehensive and coordinated in nature, reflects the district's responsibilities in regard to the successful implementation of the plan. The Midland Superintendent, administrators and representatives from parent groups, teachers and staff, and community members will be responsible for the annual review and revision of the plan each year. Building administrators and parent representatives will complete a review and revision of the individual building plans annually.

The MSD Parental & Community Engagement Plan has been developed with the support and through the participation of the district administrators, teachers, and the parent volunteer coordinators and/or representatives of the parent teacher organizations representing the elementary school and high school. The individual school plans are the result of teacher, parent, community, and administrative input.

The Midland School District will provide the support and guidance required by each of its schools to successfully implement its parental and community engagement plan. MSD will require its faculties to participate in no less than two hours of professional development opportunities that will be designed to enhance understanding of effective parental engagement strategies. In addition, MSD will require its administrators to acquire no less than three hours of professional development that will be designed to enhance understanding of effective parental and community engagement strategies and the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.

Midland School District Parent and Family Engagement Plan 2019-2020

The Midland School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parent and family engagement plan.

- Establish a parent advisory committee at each school campus that will meet regularly to develop, implement and review components of the district-wide parent and family engagement policy during the 2019-2020 school year.
- District Parent Coordinator, Allison Martin, Charlotte Melton, High School Parent Facilitator; and Elementary Parent Facilitator, Robbie Moore will work cooperatively with parent groups to solicit parental input during the development and implementation of the parent and family engagement plan.
- Disseminate information pertaining to meetings, workshops and planning sessions.
- Form a parent and family engagement committee on each campus that will work cooperatively to implement parent and family engagement activities designed to increase parent and family engagement.

The Midland School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of district plan review and improvement:

- Conduct the annual report to the public in the fall.
- Distribute parent surveys to collect information and data pertaining to identified school improvement areas.
- Schedule parent workshops and parent nights.

- Provide an open forum to parents and community members to discuss views/concerns relating to school improvement.
- Form a committee of teachers, administrators, and parents to recommend new parent and family engagement policies and activities.

The Midland School District will provide necessary coordination, assistance and support to schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- Provide opportunities for staff and administration to attend professional development relating to parent and family engagement and strategies to increase parent and family engagement in the school environment and learning process.
- Schedule parent workshops and parent nights on each campus throughout the 2019-2020 school year.
- Send letters to parents whose students miss more than three unexcused absences in a semester in an attempt to reduce truancy, keep the parents informed of their students' activities, and reduce the number of students who fail to receive credit due to excessive absences.
- The coordinator and superintendent will conduct onsite visits of scheduled parent and family engagement activities and will keep documentation of each.

The Midland School District will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with other programs:

- Arkansas Better Chances pre-kindergarten program; Division of Health and Human Services; Janet Canard, daycare & preschool director; Bani' Meharg, Elementary Principal; & elementary staff members.
- These entities will work together throughout the year to coordinate their programs to provide support, services, and early interventions for young students so they will be prepared for kindergarten and beyond.
- ETS, Educational Talent Search, meets with students and parents regarding educational opportunities, information about postsecondary schools and careers.

The Midland School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of the school.

- Evaluate the programs of the building level parent and family engagement plans and activities as outlined in the Arkansas comprehensive school improvement plans.
- Provide interpreters to assist parents of English language learners communicate with their child's teacher during parent/teacher conferences.
- Conduct parent and surveys. Data will be analyzed by superintendent & district staff and members of the district parent and family engagement committee to identify target areas of parental concern and suggestions for program improvement and/or strategies suggested by parents for activities and accommodation that can be made to increase parent participation.
- Members of the district parent and family engagement committee will work with superintendent to share suggestions and recommendations to the school board based on findings of the parent survey used throughout the year.
- Distribute information to parents in multiple language formats to accommodate the diverse student population.
- Building and district-level parent and family engagement committees will meet regularly to review evaluations, formulate a plan for addressing areas of improvement and the programs/services that will be implemented for each area.

2019 - 2020 parent and family engagement Committees (d=district, e=elementary, h=high school)

• Allison Martin	Coordinator	d, e, hs
• Janet Canard	preschool	d, e
• Robbie Moore	teacher	d, e
• Bani' Meharg	principal	d, e
• Brandy Jefford	parent	d, hs
• Karen Wells	teacher	d, hs
• Charlotte Melton	teacher	d, hs
• Keith Madden	principal	d, hs
• Dana Beard	counselor	d, hs
• Carrie Williford	parent	d, e
• Dewayne Wammack	superintendent	d, e, hs
• Katie Tate	parent	d, hs
• Holly May	parent	d, e, hs
• Daphne Everett	parent	d,hs

In order to ensure effective parent and family engagement and to support a strong family-school partnership to improve student academic achievement, the Midland School District will build capacity through the following activities specifically described below:

The school district will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school to better understand topics such as: the state's academic content standards, the state's student academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments, monitoring their child's progress, and working with educators through the following means:

- Conduct an annual report to the public meeting
- Explain grade level assessment data
- Implement instructional programs and/or services that address areas of deficiencies in assessment data at all grade levels
- Explanation of accreditation status
- Federally fund and explain important program components that include Title I - A, Title II - A, Title IV - A, and Title VI - B

The school district, through each campus, will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate by providing the following:

- Host parent nights.
- Hold an annual high school parent meeting in the late spring to inform parents about course selections, career planning, and preparation for post-secondary opportunities.
- Publish school-parent compacts in the district handbook, to be distributed at open house or first day of school, to each student.
- Maintain a parent resource center at the high school as well as similar materials and resources at each campus that will be accessible to parents through the school library during regular school hours.
- Educate its teachers, services personnel, principals and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.
- Provide information to parents pertaining to the volunteer program and the various projects for which parents and community members can volunteer to assist building faculty and staff at each school campus.
- Distribute information to parents in multiple language formats to accommodate the diverse student population; interpreters will be provided to assist parents of English language learners communicate with their child's teacher and school personnel.

- Train district faculty during the 2019 - 2020 school year through teachers' in-service. During the school year, the superintendent as well as building principals and district coordinator will attend various parent and family engagement events, meetings and functions to be sure events are planned and do occur and will provide feedback on suggested improvements. The superintendent and district coordinator will keep documentation of number of parents attending activities offered and share percentage of participation with parents, staff and the community.
- Present the school-wide discipline plan that will provide the framework behavior for all students.

The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- Information will be sent to parents for all scheduled meetings, programs, activities, parent workshops, and parent nights through the mediums listed below. All information will be produced and distributed in multiple languages to insure that parents/guardians of all students receive information in their native language.
- Information will be shared through the following: school newsletters; parent/teacher organization newsletters; weekly student folders; back-to-school open house and pre- kindergarten orientation; school-parent compacts ; student handbooks; communications for each extracurricular activities; phone calls and email correspondences; and information distributed at parent/teacher conferences.

Each campus will provide parents with copies of the updated Midland School District student handbook which shares local, state and national education goals as well as the parent's right to know. Parents have access to a paper copy of the handbook as well as the electronic copy of the handbook posted on district website, www.midlandschools.org.