

Midland School District Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2023-24

Midland School District implements many strategies and activities to support our partnerships with parents, families and the community. The superintendent, administrators, teachers, staff and parents meet to discuss the Family Engagement District Plan and the District Improvement Plan. The administrators of the high school and elementary meet with teachers, staff and parents to discuss the school family engagement plan and the school improvement plan for each school.

The District Family Engagement Coordinator, Parent Facilitator and ESL Coordinator will work cooperatively with parent groups to solicit parental input during the development and implementation of the Family Engagement Plan. Information regarding scheduled meetings will be put on the announcements that go out to families, newsletters, website E-Notes notification center and Social Media to ensure adequate representation of parents and families of children in the Midland School District.

The District Family Engagement Plan is available to families and the local community on the district's website, midlandschools.org. A summary of the District Family Engagement Plan will be in the student handbook.

Midland School District will engage families and the community in an annual evaluation of the Title I, Part A Program's Family Engagement efforts through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by teachers, parents and school staff. The Title I committee, made up of teachers, parents and school staff, will determine the effectiveness of the Family Engagement Plan and make changes if warranted. While collecting Page 1 of 11 evidence about satisfaction with the program and the school's efforts to increase family engagement, the survey will also collect specific information on the (1) growth in number of parents participating in workshops and meetings; (2) specific needs of parents; (3) effectiveness of specific strategies; and (4) engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth.

The District uses the Family Engagement Plan to inform its overall District Improvement Plan. Specifically, the District has added a component related to social/emotional health specific to parents. District will involve parents in the implementation of a social-emotional curriculum.

Build Staff Capacity *(Describe how the district will support all its Title I schools in planning and implementing effective engagement practices.)*

- Parent and family engagement is included in the required professional development of all teachers in the Midland School District. Teachers will attend professional development

relating to parent and family engagement strategies to increase parent and family engagement in the school environment and learning process.

- Meetings will be held by each school involving: administrator, family engagement coordinator, ESL coordinator, counselor, teachers and parents in order to develop each school family engagement plans. The schools will then meet to contribute to the District Family Engagement Plan and to work on the school-parent compact.
- A parent-friendly summary of the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan will be in the student handbook. A signature is required by each child's parent or guardian acknowledging receipt of the summary.
- The District Leadership Team made up of the superintendent, principals, counselors, preschool Director, parent engagement coordinator and teachers, meet monthly to implement effective parent and family involvement activities.
- Financial resources will be provided to support planned events for each school; district calendars will include parent/teacher conference days; family engagement school coordinators will be designated and compensated for each school.
- The ESL Coordinator will ensure that the Family Engagement Plan and information regarding the plan is provided in a language parents can understand.
- Publish school-parent compacts in the district handbook, to be distributed at open house or first day of school, to Page 2 of 11 each student.
- 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. Volunteers are trained at the beginning of the year or as needed by the Parent Center Coordinator. Grannies are trained through White River Area on Aging's Foster Grandparent Program.
- 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.
- The superintendent as well as building principals and district coordinator will attend various parent and family engagement events.

Build Parent Capacity *(Describe how the LEA supports parents in helping with their student's academic success.)*

- Parent and family engagement is included in the required professional development of all teachers in the Midland School District. Teachers will attend professional development relating to parent and family engagement strategies to increase parent and family engagement in the school environment and learning process.

- Meetings will be held by each school involving: administrator, building family engagement coordinators, ESL coordinator, counselor, teachers and parents in order to develop each school parent and family engagement plans. The schools will then meet to contribute to the District Family Engagement Plan and to work on the school-parent compact.
- Host STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) Family nights. The coordinator and superintendent will conduct onsite visits of scheduled family and community engagement activities and will keep documentation of each.
- 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.
- A parent-friendly summary of the District Family Engagement Plan will be in the student handbook. A signature is Page 3 of 11 required by each child's parent or guardian acknowledging receipt of the summary.
- 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 District Leadership Team made up of the superintendent, principals, counselors, preschool Director, parent engagement coordinators and teachers, meet monthly to implement effective family engagement activities.
- Financial resources will be provided to support planned events for each school; district calendars will include parent/teacher conference days; parent involvement coordinators will be designated and compensated for each school.
- The ESL Coordinator will ensure that the Family Engagement Plan and information regarding the plan is provided in a language parents can understand.
- 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 Elementary as well as similar materials and resources at the High School campus that will be accessible to parents through the parent center.
- 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.

- The superintendent as well as building principals and district coordinator will attend various family and community engagement events.
- During parent-teacher conferences teachers explain to parents state academic standards and state and local academic assessments to help parents understand them. Teachers also explain to parents how to navigate HAC so they can monitor their child's progress.
- Provide a virtual liaison as a support for teachers and parents for virtual students.

Coordinate *(Describe how the LEA will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports, services, and resources to families that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.)*

- Conduct an annual report to the public meeting
- 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. Page 4 of 11
- ETS, Educational Talent Search, meets with students and parents regarding educational opportunities, information about postsecondary schools and careers.
- Explain grade level assessment data
- Implement instructional programs and/or services that address areas of deficiencies in assessment data at all grade levels
- Provide 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
- Maintain a parent resource center at the Elementary as well as similar materials and resources at the High School campus that will be accessible to parents through the Parent Center.
- The following 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: Arkansas Better Chances pre-kindergarten program; Division of Health and Human Services; daycare and preschool director; Elementary principal; Elementary staff.

Evaluate *(Describe how the LEA evaluates the content and effectiveness of its Engagement Program in improving the academic quality of all schools. Describe how the LEA reserves and uses Title I funds for parent and family engagement programs and activities.)*

To ensure the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy as it relates to strategies for increasing parental participation as well as identifying barriers to greater participation, Midland School District will participate in ongoing evaluation procedures by conducting the following:

- Evaluate the programs of the building level family engagement plans and activities as outlined in the Arkansas comprehensive school improvement plans.
- Distribute information to parents in multiple language formats to accommodate the diverse student and parent/family population.
- Conduct parent and community surveys. Data will be analyzed by superintendent & district staff and members of the district family engagement committee to identify target areas of parental concerns and suggestions for program improvement and/or strategies suggested by parents for activities and accommodation that can be made to increase parent participation. District will also solicit ideas from parents and the community regarding how funds are allotted for parental engagement activities.
- Members of the district family engagement committee will work with the superintendent to share suggestions and recommendations to the school board based on findings of the parent survey used throughout the year.
- Building and district-level 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. They will also discuss ideas regarding how funds reserved for parent and family engagement are allotted for parental involvement activities that align with the district family engagement policy. PROCESS: The Family Engagement Coordinator convenes the Family Engagement Committee at least two times per year for the purpose of reviewing the plan and to plan engagement activities that occur throughout the year. The Committee makes appropriate recommendations for improvements to the plan that are incorporated into the plan by the Family Engagement Coordinator. The plan is approved by the committee and transmitted to the Superintendent for his final review and presentation to the board. The Board of Education has final approval of the plan and may make changes to the plan as it sees fit.
- Midland School District will engage parents in an annual evaluation of the Title I, Part A Program's Family Engagement efforts through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by teachers, parents and school staff. The Title I committee, made up of teachers, parents and school staff, will determine the effectiveness of the Family Engagement Plan and make changes if warranted. While collecting evidence about satisfaction with the program and the school's efforts to increase family engagement, the survey will also collect specific information on the (1) growth in number of parents participating in workshops and meetings; (2) specific needs of parents; (3) effectiveness of specific strategies; (4) engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth; and (5) barriers.