

Midland School District Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2022-23

1: Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives

- Midland School District implements many strategies and activities to support our partnerships with parents. The superintendent, administrators, teachers, staff and parents meet to discuss the Parent and 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 parent and family engagement plan and the school improvement plan for each school.
- The District Parent Coordinator, High School Parent Facilitator and Elementary Parent Facilitator will work cooperatively with parent groups to solicit parental input during the development and implementation of the parent and family engagement plan. Information regarding scheduled meetings will be put on the announcements that goes 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 Parent and Family Engagement Plan is available to families and the local community on the district's website, midlandschools.org. A summary of the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan will be in the students handbook. Each student is required to get the handbook page signed from a parent or guardian acknowledging receipt of the summary.
- Midland School District will engage parents in an annual evaluation of the Title I, Part A Program's Parent and 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 Parent and Family Engagement Plan and make changes if warranted. While collecting evidence about satisfaction with the program and the school's efforts to increase Parent and 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 Parent and 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. In light of COVID-19, the District will involve parents in the implementation of a social-emotional curriculum.

2: Building Staff Capacity

- Parental Involvement 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 parent 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 Parent and 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; parent involvement coordinators will be designated and compensated for each school.
- The ESL Coordinator will ensure that the Parent and 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.
- 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.
- Provide a virtual liaison as a support for teachers and parents for virtual students.
- The superintendent as well as building principals and district coordinator will attend various parent and family engagement events.

3: Building Parent Capacity

- Parental Involvement 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 parent 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 Parent and 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 parent and family 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 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.
- 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 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; parent involvement coordinators will be designated and compensated for each school.
- The ESL Coordinator will ensure that the Parent and 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 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.
- The superintendent as well as building principals and district coordinator will attend various parent and family 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.

4: Coordination

- 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.
- 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 school library during regular school hours.
- 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.

5: Evaluation and Reservation

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 parent and 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 parent and 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 parent and 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 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. 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 parent and family engagement policy.

PROCESS: The Parent Engagement Coordinator convenes the Parent and 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 Parent 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 Parent and 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 Parent and Family Engagement Plan and make changes if warranted. While collecting evidence about satisfaction with the program and the school's efforts to increase Parent and 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.

Our district receives less than \$500,000 Title I funds

Assurances

A.1: LEA understands that by August 1st annually, it must review and update accordingly the District Engagement Plan.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)(1-2)]

A.2: LEA understands that the District Engagement Plan should be sent to the State for review in Indistar no later than August 1st. If the plan is returned for revisions, those revisions should be made and the plan sent for an additional review within two weeks.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)]

A.3: LEA understands that the District Engagement Plan must be made available to families and the local community on the district website under State Required Information no later than August 1st; if revisions are necessary, the final accepted copy should take its place once available.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)]

A.4: LEA understands that a parent-friendly summary/explanation of the Engagement Plan should be included in the current student handbook.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a); ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.02]

A.5: LEA understands its obligation for ensuring professional development requirements related to parent and family engagement are met and that records are maintained accordingly. (2 hours every 4 years with 2022 being a required year)

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1703(a); A.C.A. § 6-17-709; Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts July 2020 Standard 4-G.1 Professional Development (D/C)]

A.6: LEA understands its obligation to train all volunteers at least annually and be able to provide proof of that training, if requested.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1703(b)]

A.7: LEA understands its obligation to obtain signatures for each parent acknowledging receipt of the District's Engagement Plan summary/explanation.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)(3)(B)]

A.8: LEA understands its obligation to reserve at least 1 percent of its Title I, Part A allocation for engagement purposes should such total allocation amount to \$500,000 or more. Nothing limits LEAs from reserving more than 1 percent of its allocation for engagement purposes.

[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(A)]

A.9: LEA understands that all Title I, Part A funded engagement activities and strategies should remain consistent with all information set forth in this parent and family engagement plan.

[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(D)]

A.10: LEA understands its obligation to submit to the State any comments from parents who deem the schoolwide plan unsatisfactory. These comments can be sent to ade.engagementmatters@ade.arkansas.gov

[ESSA § 1116(b)(4)]

A.11: LEA understands its obligation to provide other reasonable support for engagement activities to ensure the effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

[ESSA § 1116(e)(14)]