

AR
 Southside High School (Fort Smith) (Fort Smith School District)
 4100 Gary Street
 Fort Smith AR 72903
 479-646-7371

School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

School Name:	Suthside High School
Facilitator Name:	Laura Smith
Plan Review/Revision Date:	
District Level Reviewer, Title:	
District Level Approval Date:	

Committee Members, Role:

(Select "Repeat" to open more entry fields to add additional team members)

First Name	Last Name	Position
Lisa	Miller	Principal
Liana	Bolton	Vice Principal
Laura	Smith	Teacher, Parent Involvement Coordinator
Patti	Pinter	Parent
Jamie	Walls	Parent, Faculty

1: Jointly Developed

(Describe/List how parents will be involved in the development of the school parent and family engagement plan and how parents will be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of parent and family engagement programs.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

- School staff, parents, and students developed a school/parent/student compact. This compact outlines how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards. All stakeholders will sign the compact, which is located in the Student Handbook.
- The Parent Involvement Committee, made up of teachers and parents, will determine the effectiveness of the Parental Involvement Plan by survey and make changes if warranted.
- The school will provide a list of volunteer opportunities and solicit ideas for other types of volunteer efforts during orientation of parents. Teachers will explain the requirements to parents and encourage them to become involved in the school. Brief training sessions will provide parents and community members with the information they need to participate as school volunteers in order to put them at ease and make the experience pleasant and successful.

- The school will work with Ramsey Junior High and Chaffin Junior High schools to help provide a smooth transition from one school to the next by raising parent awareness of procedures and related activities. The school will host special orientation programs for parents and students to help with the transition.
 - STATE REQUIREMENT – Sponsor seminars to inform the parents of high school students about how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selection, career planning, and preparation for post-secondary opportunities. The school will use the resources of the parent interest online survey to plan the parental involvement activities for the year.
 - PTSA Open House was held August 12, 2019. The principal held an orientation for parents informing them of student expectations and opportunities for parental volunteer help.
 - Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held October 15 and 17, 2019 and March 31 and April 2, 2020. During these times, teachers will hold conferences individually with parents of children in their classrooms.
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2: Annual Title I Meeting

(Describe/List when (provide the month/year or month/day/year) the school will hold the Annual Title I meeting to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation as well as the parents' rights to be involved. The Annual Title I meeting should not be used to ask for parent input, but provided as an opportunity to disseminate information and distribute copies of the revised parent and family engagement policy.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

- STATE REQUIREMENT – Southside has an active Parent, Teacher, Student Association.
 - STATE REQUIREMENT - To take advantage of community resources, the school shall consider recruiting alumni from the school to create an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement.
 - STATE REQUIREMENT - Southside will hold a Title I meeting to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the schools participation as well as the parents' rights to be involved. The meeting will be held October 17, 2019.
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3: Communications

(Describe/List how the parent and family engagement policy will be distributed to parents and how the school is going to communicate with parents including information about how the school will provide information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to parents in a format, to the extent practicable, and in a language that parents can understand.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

- STATE REQUIREMENT – The school will distribute informational packets each year that include a copy of the school's parental involvement plan, recommended roles for parents, teachers, students, and the school, suggestions of ways parents can become involved in their child's education, parental involvement activities planned for the current school year, and information about the system that will be used to allow parents and teachers to communicate (notes, phone calls, email, etc.).
- STATE REQUIREMENT – Include in the school's policy handbook the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions.
- STATE REQUIREMENT – the principal of each school in a school district shall designate one (1) certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator. Parents and students are on the handbook committee for parents and students. The school provides a Parent Center in the library media center.
- PTSA Open House was held August 12, 2019. The principal held an orientation for parents informing them of

student expectations and opportunities for parental volunteer help.

- Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held October 15 and 17, 2019 and March 31 and April 2, 2020. During these times, teachers will hold conferences individually with parents of children in their classrooms.

4: School-Parent Compact

(Describe/List the process the schools will follow to jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

- School staff, parents, and students developed a school/parent/student compact. This compact outlines how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards. All stakeholders will sign the compact, which is located in the Student Handbook.
- STATE REQUIREMENT – Sponsor seminars to inform the parents of high school students about how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selection, career planning, and preparation for post-secondary opportunities. The school will use the resources of the parent interest online survey to plan the parental involvement activities for the year.
- The school will provide a list of volunteer opportunities and solicit ideas for other types of volunteer efforts during orientation of parents. Teachers will explain the requirements to parents and encourage them to become involved in the school. Brief training sessions will provide parents and community members with the information they need to participate as school volunteers in order to put them at ease and make the experience pleasant and successful.

5: Reservation of Funds

(If the district receives more than \$500,000 in Title I allocation, then it must reserve 1 percent for parent and family engagement activities. A minimum of 90% of that 1% must go to the schools, with priority given to high-need schools. If the school is allocated a percentage of the 1 percent, describe/list how the school will share with parents the budget for parent and family engagement activities and programs and how parents will be involved in providing input into how the funds are used.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

- Each year schools are allocated parent involvement funds through Title 1 funding. With this money each school submits how Parent Involvement funds will be spent in the Title I budget.
- Surveys will be given to parents so that they can give their opinion about the allocation of Title 1 funds reserved for parent and family engagement.
- Parent Involvement committee members will review survey results and work with parent volunteers to coordinate events for the school.

6: Coordination of Services

(Describe/List how the district and/or school will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports and resources to families.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

- The school will cultivate and make use of community Partners in Education to incorporate community resources in instructional programs.
- The school will institute *Cafecitos*, which allow Spanish-speaking families to connect with the school. *Cafecitos* are designed to support Latino parents and families as they assimilate into the new culture. They provide these parents with access to all the necessary information about their child's education.
- STATE REQUIREMENT – Southside has an active Parent, Teacher, Student Association.

7: Building Capacity of Parents

(Describe/List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, online resources, Academic Parent-Teacher Team meetings, and any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to support parents in helping their student's academic success.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

- STATE REQUIREMENT – provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation: role play and demonstration by trained volunteers, the use of and access to the Department of Education website tools for parents, assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation and other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Department of Education.
- STATE REQUIREMENT – Sponsor seminars to inform the parents of high school students about how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selection, career planning, and preparation for post-secondary opportunities. The school will use the resources of the parent interest online survey to plan the parental involvement activities for the year.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held October 15 and 17, 2019 and March 31 and April 2, 2020. During these times, teachers will hold conferences individually with parents of children in their classrooms.
- Southside High School website is www.fortsmithschools.org/southside. Teachers' email addresses may be accessed through the SHS website.
- Teachers routinely contact parents on an individual basis to communicate their child's progress.
- The school uses the student handbook, school website, signage at the school entrance, parent orientation meetings, and parent/teacher conferences to communicate with parents.
- The school also uses ParentLink, school newsletters, Remind, Facebook, Twitter, and the school website to publish announcements.
- On-campus groups such as the counselors' office, band, etc., use a variety of social media to communicate with parents and students, i.e. Remind, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, email and Google Classroom.
- This year, Southside High School is piloting Schoology, a learning management system that allows students and parents to view daily announcements, grades, assignments, and updates from faculty and staff.

8: Building Capacity of School Staff

(Describe/List activities such as workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, online resources, and Academic Parent-Teacher Team meetings that will be used with school staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners. Describe/List methods of parents' assistance for building staff capacity. Describe/List actions

the school will take to provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

o STATE REQUIREMENT – (Staff Development) The State Board of Education's Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts shall require no fewer than two (2) hours of professional development for teachers designed to enhance the understanding of effective parental involvement strategies. No fewer than three (3) hours of professional development for administrators designed to enhance understanding of effective parent involvement strategies and the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.

9: Building Capacity - Discretionary

(The school parent and family engagement policy/plan may include additional sections describing other discretionary activities that the school, in meaningful consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build capacity.)

Did the School and Parents choose to include any Discretionary (Optional) Components in the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan?

(See complete [Arkansas Guide for School Parent and Family Engagement Plan](#) for references)

District Feedback:

	Attention: Changes Needed!	In Compliance	Comments	Date of Feedback
1: Jointly Developed:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
2: Annual Title I Meeting:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Please include the date of the Annual Title I meeting before submitting! Thanks!	9/27/2019
3: Communications:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4: School-Parent Compact:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
5: Reservation of Funds:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
6: Coordination of Services:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
7: Building Capacity of Parents:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
8: Building Capacity of School Staff:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
9: Building Capacity - Discretionary:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		