

AR
 Northside High School (Fort Smith School District)
 2301 North B. St
 Fort Smith AR 72901
 479-783-1171

School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

***Please note: Your 20-21 plan has been populated below. Please make revisions or delete and paste your updated plan for 21-22.**

[Click to view Required Components Checklist](#)

School Name:	Northside High School
Facilitator Name:	Karen Vicens
Plan Review/Revision Date:	5/25/2021
District Level Reviewer, Title:	Caroline Neel, Supervisor, Curriculum & Federal Programs
District Level Approval Date:	

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?

-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 - The school shall enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Association or organization that will foster parental and community involvement within the school.

-Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with parental involvement strategies under other programs, such as the Head Start Program, Reading First Program, Early Reading First Program, Even Start Program, Parents as Teachers Program and, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, and state-run preschool programs.

-The school will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the parent involvement program through parent surveys, and conversations with parents, teachers, and students.

- Data collected as a result of parent participation in school events, including parent-teacher conferences and various parent nights held throughout the year, will be use to evaluate the school's parental involvement.

- The Parent Involvement Committee will determine the effectiveness of the Parental Improvement Plan and make changes, if needed.

- Suggestions and recommendations from parents and teachers which are collected from surveys distributed via our digital newsletter, Northside's website, Naviance, and others, will be considered to increase parent involvement endeavors.

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.

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?

Northside High School will hold its annual Title 1 meeting in April of 2022 to inform the parents of current and incoming students of the the school's participation in the Title 1 program which ensures that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education.

This meeting also informs parents of ways in which they can be involved and how to access the school's Parent and Family Engagement Plan.

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?

Northside High School website is www.fortsmithschools.org/northside

Teacher email addresses may be accessed through the NHS website

Teacher's use various communication tools: Google Classroom, Schoology, Naviance, and Gmail, and Google text, and Calendly.

The school will distribute a quarterly newsletter to parents that is developed with participation of the parent school organization, principal, staff and parent volunteers. It includes school news, a calendar of school activities, and parenting tips related to school achievement such as homework tips, organizational skills, and study skills.

Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube live or on-demand)

Counseling Center may be accessed through the NHS website

School handbook, school calendar, school newspaper, course syllabus resources are sent home with each student.

Home Access Center (HAC/gradebook) for parents to view students' academic progress and Schoology

Bilingual parent liaisons

Two parent teacher conferences (Fall-Spring)

Four PTSA meetings open to all parents, teachers, students, administrators

Transition Informational Meeting for parents - July 28th, 2021. This meeting will be for all new students to Northside.

An Open House will be scheduled in August to inform parents of general school procedures and guidelines, student schedules, and how to communicate with teachers.

Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences in October will be held. Parents are encouraged to meet with their students' teachers for academic progress and to schedule formal meetings as needed. Report cards are distributed. Counselors' and translators are available. PTSA is involved with providing opportunities for membership and spirit items to purchase

Senior Parent Night will be scheduled in September - Parents and senior students will learn how to access their Naviance account to search for scholarships, FAFSA, ACT and other vital information necessary for their college and career planning.

Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held in March. Third quarter progress reports will be available. Parents will review and sign for their students, schedule for the following year and make changes. Counselors and translators are available.

Cafecitos – These are small-group meetings for our Hispanic parents that are conducted in their native language. These meetings cover general information about school and also about post-secondary opportunities for our students.

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 will develop a school-parent-student compact which will outline how parents, teachers and students share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement. The school and parents will build a partnership to help students achieve the state's high academic standards. All stakeholders will sign the compact which is located in the Student Handbook.

Handbooks are distributed to every student at the beginning of school and signatures are required and returned

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?

Northside's Parent Involvement Committee will meet with Northside's PTSA board members to gather input and suggestions on activities, programs, and resources that could be beneficial to our students and parents. Data collected from parent surveys, and conversations with parents, teachers, and students will also be used to determine how to spend Title 1 allocations for parental involvement.

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 Parent and Family Engagement committee will meet with the PTSA to coordinate volunteer opportunities for our parents and collaborate on ways to disseminate information to parents.
- The Fort Smith Library shares their resources with Northside's Media Center and its staff on programs that supplement our students' learning opportunities.
- Collaboration with Perspective Behavioral Services to provide mental health support and services to students and their families.
- The athletic department at Northside hosts parent nights for various sports to provide support to all athletes and their parents. The format of these parent nights will be determined as the time gets closer.
- Various churches from our community provide food to our students families.
- The Children's League provides resources to families for clothing and hygiene products.
- Northside High School has strong relationships with local business through our Partners in Education program.

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?

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School handbook, school calendar, school newspaper, course syllabus resources are sent home with each student

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Two parent teacher conferences (Fall-Spring)

Four PTSA meetings open to all parents, teachers, students, administrators

Northside provides a paper list of volunteer opportunities in the registration packet that goes home each year with

every student

PTSA offers sign up opportunities on their Facebook and twitter pages

Athletic and music Booster clubs provide volunteer opportunities

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 volunteer, 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 (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 understand 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

STATE REQUIREMENT - The school will distributed Informational packets each year that includes a copy of the school's parental involvement plan, survey for volunteer interests, recommended roles for parents/ teachers/students and 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, e-mail...).

STATE REQUIREMENT - To promote and support responsible parenting, the school shall, as funds are available: Purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials regarding responsible parenting through the school library, advertise the current selection, and give parents the opportunity to borrow the materials for review.

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 (1) certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator.

Northside's website provides a digital parent resource center.

Northside's social worker will may home visits and provide parents with available resources based on circumstance and need.

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?

- Northside teachers have access to I.D.E.A.S. training, which include courses related to parent and family engagement. Some of these courses are:

PIB18054 is "Family and Community Engagement: Inviting Caregivers and Community Partners into School"

PIG16079 is "The Arkansas Guide for Promoting Family Engagement through Age Eight"

PIC14447 is "The Six Components of Parental Involvement for Teachers"

- Parents who have concerns about the school and/or their student's education should conference with the classroom teacher to try to address solutions. If a solution is not forthcoming, the parent should conference with the building principal or assistant principal to work toward a solution.

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?

(Find complete guidance on the [DESE Parent and Family Engagement Requirements](#) webpage.)

District Feedback

- Attention: Changes Needed!
 - In Compliance
-

Comments:

7/23/21

Very nice work! :)

Please go to the submissions tab and submit your plan. A PDF will be created that you will need to post to your school's website under State Required Information prior to August 1, 2021.