

AR
 Barling Elementary School (Fort Smith School District)
 1400 D Street
 Barling AR 72923
 479-452-0211

School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

School Name:	Barling Elementary School
Facilitator Name:	Kandace Weisenfels
Plan Review/Revision Date:	7/24/2020
District Level Reviewer, Title:	Dr. Sarah Biggs, Supervisor of ECE Parent and Community Services
District Level Approval Date:	7/31/2020

Committee Members, Role:

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

First Name	Last Name	Position
Carl	Hill	Principal
Kandace	Weisenfels	Counselor/Parent Facilitator
Melissa	Morgan	Teacher
Stan	Biggs	Parent
Jermaine	Oldham	Parent
Evelin	Tunchez	Parent

Committee Members, Role:

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

First Name	Last Name	Position

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?

The school involves parents on school improvement planning committees. To support this process, the school offers both school staff and parents training on how to contribute to this process in a meaningful way. The school engages parents in decision making regarding the allocation of Title I, Part A funds for parental involvement. The school engages parents in the annual evaluation of the Title I, Part A program's parental involvement efforts through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by teachers, parents/guardians, and school staff. The Title I committee made up of teachers, parents, and school staff will determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement plan and make changes if warranted. The school gathers evidence about the satisfaction with the program and the school's efforts to increase parental involvement. Specific information on the growth in number of parents participating in workshops and meetings, specific needs of parents, the effectiveness of specific strategies, and the engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth is collected. The school meets with parents of students to provide information about their involvement in the decisions affecting course selection in their student's secondary education. Information regarding career planning and post-secondary opportunities is provided for the parents.

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?

The school will conduct an Annual Title I Meeting for parents of the students who participate in the Title I, Part A program. The school notifies parents through school-site postings, notes, and ConnectEd phone messages. This meeting was held August 20, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. During this meeting, parents are informed of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation, as well as ways that parents can be involved.

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?

The school sends notes home with students, post notices in school facilities, and communicates through Page 4 of 6 ConnectEd information regarding parent workshops and meetings. The school uses the student handbook, school web site, signage at the school entrance, and parent orientation meetings for information regarding Schoolwide Title I Plan. The information includes how to get a copy of the Schoolwide Title I Plan. These meetings include parent training sessions to help parents understand how to enhance their child's education. These meetings include family reading nights that provide opportunities for parents and their children to experience the school situation in a positive and helpful manner with school staff providing any needed assistance or encouragement. Teachers hold conferences individually with parents of children in their classrooms. Parents are given a summary of student test scores and an explanation of the interventions teachers use to assist the child in reaching achievement goals. Parents are encouraged to engage in supporting of these efforts. Parents are given suggestions for coordinating school-parent efforts and explanations of homework and grading procedures. The school offers parents a workshop each year to provide an explanation of the statewide assessment system, standards, and other accountability measures. The school will encourage parents in the following types of roles and activities to increase their involvement and support for student learning: Special Parent Lunches, Book Fair Helpers, Grandparents Day, Awards Day Presentation, Field Day Volunteers, Family Science and Math Nights, Parent Education Workshops,

Open House, Parent-School Organization Choir Concerts, Various Committees, and Special Events. The school also distributes 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/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 of communication for parents and guardians with teachers (notes, phone calls, e-mail, etc.).

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 have 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 will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards. All stakeholders sign the compact.

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?

The school forms a parent advisory committee every year. The committee meets quarterly throughout the year. During this time, family engagement activities and programs are shared and discussed with parents and input about the activities is given from the parents.

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 uses community resources by recruiting alumni of the school who act as advisors and provide advice and guidance for school improvement during meetings. The school promotes and supports responsible parenting. The school enables the formation of a Parent-Teacher Organization that fosters parent and community involvement with the school. The school coordinates and integrates parental involvement strategies under other programs such as the Head Start Program, Parents as Teachers Program and Home Instruction Program for Pre-School Youngsters, and state run Pre-School programs. Some other programs that provide supports for parents include:

Partners in Education

We include preschool students and families in Parent and Family Engagement activities

Parent Teacher 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?

The school distributes a monthly newsletter to parents that is developed with participation of the parent/school organization, principal, staff and parent volunteers. It includes school news and a calendar of school activities. Each teacher sends home a folder containing student papers and work samples each week. Parents are asked to sign the folder and send it back to school. The school provides to parents reports and report cards with information regarding their child's academic progress and upcoming classroom and school events. The school sends a letter attached to test scores to parents/guardians explaining how to read test results and standardized test scores. The school sends notes home with students, post notices in school facilities, and communicates through Page 4 of 6 ConnectEd information regarding parent workshops and meetings. The school provides a list of volunteer opportunities and solicits ideas for other types of volunteer efforts. 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 works with Chaffin Junior High School to help provide a smooth transition from one school to the next by raising parent awareness of procedures and related activities. Chaffin Junior High School will host special orientation programs for parents and students to help with the transition. Instruction is provided to parents for incorporating 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 Arkansas 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 Arkansas Department of Education. Barling Elementary meets the state requirement as follows: Parents may check out materials through the Parent Resource Center. The school promotes and supports responsible parenting. As funds are available the school will purchase reading materials, DVDs, and CDs on responsible parenting. These materials are available for check-out through the parenting centers located in our school. The school provides parenting centers with pamphlets, information, and resources to check-out for parents/guardians. The school includes in the policy handbook the school's process for resolving parental concerns which include how to define a problem, who to approach first, and how to develop solutions. The principal of the school designates a certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator. For further questions, please contact Carl Hill or Kandace Weisenfels at 479-452-0211.

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?

Each year, teachers and administrators participate in required professional development courses on parent and family engagement. 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. These courses include but are not limited to:

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"

For further information about parental involvement, please refer to the pages 16-20 of the Student Handbook. For procedures on parental rights to complaint resolution, please refer to pages 53-55 of the Student Handbook. Parents are provided yearly with a copy of the handbook.

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: