

Parent and Family Engagement Plan
Dardanelle School District
Shawn Hettinga, District Coordinator
Melanie Burris, District Coordinator
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Shawn Hettinga, District Level Reviewer
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Committee Members

Mr. John Thompson	Superintendent
Dr. Jamie Burris	Principal
Norma Grace	Parent
Zach Hettinga	Parent
Bethani Walter	Student
Cindy Hudgeons	School Counselor
Kim Walter	School Counselor
Jean Furr	School Counselor
Shawn Hettinga	District Instructional Supervisor
Melanie Burris	District Instructional Supervisor

2019-2020

The administration and staff at Dardanelle Schools believe that involving families in their child's education is vital for the child to reach his or her potential. Therefore, the district desires to create a partnership with families to improve the social, emotional, and academic growth of students. The parent and family engagement plan will promote the involvement of the district school community and provide access to educational resources.

The parent and family engagement plan is in compliance with the legal requirements of Arkansas Act 603 of 2003 (6-15-1602: Parent and Family Engagement Plan) and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The plan is also included in the Dardanelle School District's Success Plan enhancing family involvement. These documents represent joint development with families, students, and school staff.

Program Components:

The following goals make up Dardanelle School District's Family Engagement Plan:

- **Goal One: The LEA will foster effective parent and family engagement strategies and support partnerships among the school, parents, and the community to improve student achievement through the following:**

The school district will...

- Coordinate parent and family engagement activities with those of other programs such as the Head Start program, Parents as Teachers program, and the Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, and other state-run preschool programs. (Stephanie Barker, Dardanelle Primary School)
 - Establish parent and family engagement contact person at each Title I, Part A schools. (Cynthia Hudgeons, Dardanelle High School; Kim Walter, Dardanelle Middle School; Jean Furr, Dardanelle Intermediate School; Stephanie Barker, Dardanelle Primary School).
 - Conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy. (Shawn Hettinga and Melanie Burris, Dardanelle Central Office)
 - Develop district parent and family engagement committee to create a parent and family engagement policy and to implement parent and family engagement activities as well as disseminate information to the community to promote parent and family engagement in the Title I, Part A schools. (Shawn Hettinga and Melanie Burris, Dardanelle District Central Office).
 - Ensure that parents of children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have equal access as other parents including information in a language and form they can understand.
 - Involve parents in the process of school review and improvement.
 - Develop and disseminate district parent and family engagement policy.
 - Conduct an annual meeting in the spring to update the policy for the next year's Title I, Part A program. (Shawn Hettinga and Melanie Burris, Dardanelle District Central Office)
 - **If necessary**, reserve a minimum of 1% of the Title I, Part A allocation for parent and family engagement, with 90% going to Title I, Part A schools, with priority given to "high-need" schools. **Required** for districts receiving \$500,000 or more Title I funding. (Melanie Burris, District Central Office)
- **Goal Two: The LEA will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent engagement through the following:**

The school district will...

- Conduct ongoing site visits to observe parent and family engagement practices. (Shawn Hettinga and Melanie Burris, Dardanelle District Central Office)
- Provide materials and training not otherwise available to assist parents in supporting their child's academic achievement.
- Enhance awareness and skills of teachers, pupil service personnel, principals,

and staff reaching out to, communicating with, and working with parents as equal partners. (Stephanie Barker, Dardanelle Primary School)

- Ensure, to the extent possible, that information is sent home in a language and form parents can understand. (Magaly Caballero, Dardanelle Primary School)
- Provide information on adult literacy training available in the community.
- Provide a copy of the school policy at each school for parents to view as well as provide a copy to each parent.
- Monitor each Title I, Part A school to ensure that each school performs the following tasks:
 - Develop parental and family engagement policy.
 - Offer flexible meeting times.
 - Develop and use School-Parent Compact
 - Provide training for parents working with their child to improve academic achievement, to include training on the phone notification system in order to have real-time access to their child's attendance and achievement.
(Shawn Hettinga and Melanie Burris, Dardanelle District Central Office)
- Reinforce parenting skills to support the acquisition of academic skills and their application in real-life situations for parent use.
- Encourage parents to visit/volunteer at school by assisting staff in developing volunteer opportunities as well as training staff to encourage and to build volunteer efforts.
- Encourage parent participation through innovative scheduling of activities through strategies like holding meetings at a variety of times, such as morning and evening, in order to maximize the opportunities for parents to participate in school-related activities.
- Coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies and staff training with the Readiness Coalition Committee.
- Convene annual school meeting to inform parents of their school's participation in the development of the parent and family engagement policy and their right to be involved.

- **Goal Three: The LEA will build the school's capacity for strong parental engagement.**

The school district will...

- Provide information to participating parents in such areas as national, state, and local educational goals, including parents' rights as defined in Title I, Part A. (Cynthia Hudgeons, Dardanelle High School; Kim Walter, Dardanelle Middle School; Jean Furr, Dardanelle Intermediate School; Stephanie Barker, Dardanelle Primary School).
- Assist in the development of parent engagement groups at each school. (Cynthia Hudgeons, Dardanelle High School; Kim Walter, Dardanelle Middle School; Jean Furr, Dardanelle Intermediate School; Stephanie Barker, Dardanelle Primary School).
- Encourage the formation of partnerships between schools and local businesses that includes roles for parents.

- Provide resources for parents to learn about child development, child rearing practices, and academic strategies that are designed to help parents to become full partners in the education of their child(ren).
- Involve parents through an annual survey to improve school effectiveness. (Cynthia Hudgeons, Dardanelle High School; Kim Walter, Dardanelle Middle School; Jean Furr, Dardanelle Intermediate School; Stephanie Barker, Dardanelle Primary School).
- Approve reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities.
- Provide any reasonable support for parent and family engagement at the request of participating Title I, Part A schools. (Shawn Hettinga, Dardanelle District Central Office)
- **Goal Four: The LEA will conduct, with the involvement of parents, ongoing evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement plan as it relates to strategies for increasing parental participation by identifying barriers to greater participation.**

The school district will...

- Survey parents annually, including questions to identify barriers to parent and family engagement. (Cynthia Hudgeons, Dardanelle High School; Kim Walter, Dardanelle Middle School; Jean Furr, Dardanelle Intermediate School; Stephanie Barker, Dardanelle Primary School).
- Provide an opportunity for the parents to assist in the development of the evaluation procedures, including analysis of data collected. (Cynthia Hudgeons, Dardanelle High School; Kim Walter, Dardanelle Middle School; Jean Furr, Dardanelle Intermediate School; Stephanie Barker, Dardanelle Primary School).
- Develop procedures for collecting parent participation documentation through sign-in sheets for workshops, meetings, and conferences; schedules; brochures; meeting notes; and other means as appropriate throughout the school year.
- Use findings from the evaluation process to make recommendations to each participating school for parent and family engagement policy revision as well as provide suggestions for designing school improvement policies. (Shawn Hettinga and Melanie Burris, Dardanelle District Office)
- Develop and disseminate an annual parent activity evaluation report to share with parents, staff, and the community. (Cynthia Hudgeons, Dardanelle High School; Kim Walter, Dardanelle Middle School; Jean Furr, Dardanelle Intermediate School; Stephanie Barker, Dardanelle Primary School).
- **Goal Five: The LEA will involve parents in the joint development of the district Title I Application under section 1112 (ACSIP).**

The school district will...

- Recruit parents to serve on district school improvement committee to develop the Title I application (Melanie Burris, Dardanelle District Central Office).
- Recruit parents for the district Parent Advisory Committee.
- Encourage the formation of partnerships between the district and local businesses that includes roles for parents.

- Involve parents through an annual survey to improve district effectiveness.