

Kraus Middle School, Clarksville School District
1901 CLARK ROAD
CLARKSVILLE, AR 72830
479-705-3240

Grades 5 and 6
Title I School wide

75% free/reduced lunch

Committee members: Amy Blackard, Building Facilitator; Janice Price, Principal; Anne Nelson, Teacher; Anice Tedford, Teacher; PTO Officers: Angie Reeder, President; Mark and Katrina Mooney, Vice Presidents.

Contact Information: Janice Price, Principal: Janice.price@csdar.org; Amy Blackard, Teacher: amy.blackard@csdar.org, 479-705-3240

1. Various communication strategies used at Kraus to provide information and support engagement:

1. Involve parents and the community in the development and improvement of Title I programs for the school; 2. Have a coordinated involvement program where the involvement activities of the school enhance the involvement strategies of other programs; 3. Explain to parents and the community the State's content and achievement standards, State and local student assessments and how the school's curriculum is aligned with the assessments and how parents can work with the school to improve their child's academic achievement; 4. Provide parents with the materials and training they need to be better able to help their child achieve. The school may use parents resource centers and other community based organizations to foster parent and family engagement and provide literacy and technology training to parents; 5. Educate school staff, with the assistance of parents, in ways to work and communicate with parents and to know how to implement parent involvement programs that will promote positive partnerships between the school and parents; 6. Keep parents informed about parent and family engagement programs, meetings, and other activities they could be involved in. Such communication shall be, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand; 7. Find ways to eliminate barriers that work to keep parents from being involved in their child's education. This may include providing transportation and child care to enable parents to participate, arranging meetings at a variety of times, and being creative with parent/teacher conferences; 8. Find and modify other successful parent and community involvement programs to suit the needs of our school; 9. Train parents to enhance and promote the involvement of other parents; 10. Provide reasonable support for other parent and family engagement activities as parents may reasonable request.

2. Proposed meetings, activities, and conferences to increase parent and family engagement as well as build staff/parent capacity:

September Gifted and Talented Parent Informational Meeting

September Two Town Hall Meeting

September/October District Parent Advisory Committee Meeting

September Project Mentor KickOf

September Individual Student Progress Reports sent to Parents

October Parent/Teacher Conferences: Teachers will hold Student Led Conferences and or Parent/Teacher Conferences. Parents will be asked to engage in discussion of how they can support efforts of academic success.

October Cultural Awareness for Karen People

October Book Fair

November Thanksgiving Lunch

November Veterans Day Celebration

November/December Angel Tree and Food Drive Choir Concert

Fall and Spring March Parent Teacher Conferences

March District Parent Advisory Committee Meeting

May Gifted and Talented Parent Night for Project Presentation

May Kraus Field Day

May Fishing Derby Monthly PTO Meetings

3. Kraus provides information to parents about volunteer opportunities.

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 – Monthly Newsletters 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.

The Volunteer Coordinator 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.

School Social Worker organizes Mentor Training for parent and community members volunteering for student Mentor Program.

Person Responsible: Deletha Morris, Volunteer Coordinator and Amy Blackard, Parent Engagement Building Facilitator

4. School-Parent Compact

School staff, parents, and students have adopted a school-parent-student compact. This compact will outline 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 will sign the compact.

Person's Responsible: Janice Price, Principal and Amy Blackard, Parent Engagement Building Facilitator

5. Involvement in the development, implementation, and evaluation of school-wide improvement plan and Title I meeting

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.

Create a parent center which is open to parents throughout school hours.

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...).

Person Responsible: Amy Blackard, Parent Engagement Building Facilitator

6. Resources for Parents and Families

We coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies out of 1% of the allocated Title I funds by purchasing Parent Compact supplies and update Parent Center Materials.

Person Responsible: Amy Blackard, Parent Engagement Building Facilitator

7. Engagement of parents and families in evaluation of efforts

The school will engage parents in the annual online evaluation of the Title I, Part A Program's parent and family engagement efforts through an annual online evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by parents that is available in English and in Spanish that is available on our district website.

Person responsible: Janice Price, Principal

8. How the school uses surveys

Our staff reviews and evaluates the results of the online survey each Fall and Spring. The staff then focuses on the strengths and weaknesses of the survey to make adequate changes.

Person responsible: Amy Blackard, Parent Engagement Building Facilitator

9. Annual Title I meeting

The Annual Title I meeting is held in May every year that includes teachers, administrators, parents, and students.

Person responsible: Paul Dean, Assistant Superintendent