

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT / FAMILY and COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN
NORTH HEIGHTS JUNIOR HIGH
TEXARKANA ARKANSAS SCHOOL DISTRICT
2018-2019

District

Texarkana Arkansas School District

School Improvement Status

Needs Improvement

Grade Levels

7th and 8th

Parent Involvement Coordinator

Lisa Lowery

Are you Title I School-wide?

Yes

Percent of free and reduced lunch

68 percent

Family and Community Engagement Committee Members

Theresa Cowling, Principal

Bryan McDonald, Assistant Principal

Ashlie Odom, Instructional Facilitator

Lisa Lowery, Teacher\Parent Coordinator

Naoma Riordan, Teacher

Jodie Brooks, Parent

Jonathan Horton, Parent

Felisha Matlock, Parent

Venture Watson, Parent

Blake Aubrey, Community Member

Becca Watts, Community Member

Brenda Kelley, Counselor

Meredith Smith, Counselor

Suzanne Icenhower, Special Education Teacher

1. List various communication strategies used in your school to provide additional information to parents and to increase parental involvement in supporting classroom instruction and announce volunteer opportunities.

- The school has a designated Parent Center that is stocked with our school's current forms and correspondence. It is also equipped with an Internet accessible computer to access students information, NH webpage, district's webpage, digital student handbook or other information that maybe pertinent to the parent.
- The North Heights web page will showcase pertinent school information, current events, and teacher contact information, such as conference periods and contact numbers for parents to utilize.
- The school has a Facebook page, Instagram and has set up Remind to inform parents, to highlight current events, and to provide a calendar of upcoming activities.

- The school will provide parents with information such as report cards/parent reports at least every three weeks with information regarding their child's academic progress and upcoming classroom and school events.
- The school will host two after school progress reviews for parents: November 12, 2018, and April 1, 2019.
- In addition, parent-teacher conferences will be held once each semester beginning at 1:00 PM and lasting until 7:00 PM providing opportunities for all parents to work with their child's teachers. October 9, 2018 and February 19, 2019
- The school will host a parent night before school starts and will host parent activity nights once each semester.
- The school's VIP program will promote parent involvement and host Coffee Breaks each month with the principal and parent coordinator to involve parents in the education of their children, participate in school decisions, collaborate with others in the school community, and evaluate the effectiveness of the school-level improvement plan.
- Parents will have three opportunities to attend on scheduled dates 8:15 AM. 12:15 PM. & 5:15 PM.
- The school will send information home with students, post notices in school facilities, post notices on social media or do telephone callouts to inform parents about workshops and meetings.
- The school will use the district website, school website, digital marquee located on school grounds, and parent orientation meetings to inform parents about the School-wide Title I Plan; also known as the Arkansas Consolidated School Improvement Plan (ACSIP), and how to get a copy.
- The school will utilize the call out system to notify parents of important events, academic check points and important target dates.
- The school strives for communication to be two-way and ongoing, so that all shareholders will have a voice. Some forms of two-way communication utilized are email accounts, telephones in each classroom, online platforms such as Remind and face-to-face conferences.
- Digital parental surveys are offered throughout the school year to seek vital authentic input to acknowledge that parents play an integral role in assisting student learning.
- Responsible party: Felicia Horn, Kelly Massey
North Heights Junior High (870) 773-1091

2. List the proposed parent meeting, conferences and activities regularly throughout this year and the dates providing flexible meeting times that you have planned to increase parental involvement and build staff and parent capacity to engage in these types of efforts. (Must include the 2 state mandated parent/teacher conferences each year.)

- Parent-teacher conferences will be held once a semester in order for parents to work with their child's teacher, to support and promote responsible parenting. October 9, 2018 and February 19, 2019
- The school will host two after school progress reviews for parents: November 12, 2018, and April 1, 2019.
- The facilitator and principal will develop parent information packets to distribute at parental involvement meetings, family nights, and other parent-contact opportunities.

- The school will provide a computer in the parent resource center to give parents' access to the Internet, their student's grades and computer programs that will help them monitor their child's progress in their My Leadership Digital Binders.
- The facilitator will provide a list of parent volunteers to the classroom teachers and utilize these volunteers to help teachers in a variety of ways that would not constitute a breach of student confidentiality.
- The school will provide resources such as, digital links to learning activities such as Khan Academy, a list of free educational software and other resources with instruction to parents on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment with assistance from the instructional facilitator and the instructional technology specialist.
- The school will assist parents in understanding content and ways to monitor a child's progress, standards, and academic assessments. Such as how to interpret the ACT Aspire, and understanding the Texarkana Formative Assessments (TFAs).
- The school will educate teachers, principals, and other staff in the importance of effective communication, value, and utilization of contributions of parents. Teachers will document parent contacts.
- The facilitator will integrate parental involvement programs and activities to ensure that information related to school and parent programs will be posted to the website or sent to parents and provide other reasonable support for parent involvement.
- The school will engage parents in the following types of roles and activities to increase their involvement and support for learning.
 - Parent Education Workshops
 - Mentoring
 - Reading Campaign
 - Red Ribbon Week
 - Awards Day Presentations
 - National Honor Society
 - Athletic Events
 - Fine Arts Showcases
 - Band Concerts
 - Field Trips
 - East Lab Night Out
 - Parent-School Organizations
 - Coffee Breaks
 - Choir Concerts
 - Drama Productions
 - School Dances
 - Job Shadowing/Career Day
 - Various Committees
 - Chaperones
- Responsible parties: Leadership Team, Theresa Cowling
North Heights Junior High School (870) 773-1091

3. How will your school provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities (must include state mandated parent training)?

- The school will provide opportunities for parents and community members to support the instructional program. Volunteer opportunities will be posted on the website, flyers sent home, opportunities will be posted on social media, and/or a call-out will be made.
- The school will host special orientation programs for parents and students to help with the transition from College Hill Middle School to North Heights Junior High and North Heights Junior High to Arkansas High School. Parents will have the opportunity to meet the new teachers at the end of the school year and students will have a chance to tour the campus before attending.
- The school will follow state requirements and provide instruction or access to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation: video links to role play and demonstration by trained volunteer, the link to access and use the Department of Education website tools for parents, access to school menus and link to ADEs nutritional guidelines to assist with nutritional meal planning. Provide a list of free websites and link to help in the 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 school will follow state requirements on Staff Development and The State Board of Education's Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public School and School Districts shall require no fewer than two hours of professional development for teachers designed to enhance the understanding of effective parental involvement strategies. No fewer than three 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.
- Responsible Party: Robin Hickerson,
TASD Education Center (870) 772-3371

4. How will your school work with parents to create a School-Parent-Compact?

- School staff, parents, and students will develop a school-parent-student compact. This compact will outline how parents, school staff, and students share responsibility for improved 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. The contract will be placed in the information packet that will be distributed to all parents. All shareholders will sign the compact.
- The process of developing a school-parent compact is emerging and ongoing. Current documentation is established through forms such as handbook receipt, Internet usage, and smart core form consent. Parents shall sign forms acknowledging receipt of the summaries and return them to school.
- Responsible Parties: Theresa Cowling, Tina Wheat
North Heights Junior High (870) 773-1091

5. How will your school provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of the school wide school improvement plan, and the Annual Title I Meeting to engage them in the decision-making processes regarding the school's Title I, Part A Program?

- The school will welcome parents into the school, seek parental support, assistance and recognize that parents are full partners in decisions that affect his/her child and family.
- The school will follow state requirements and 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.
- The school will follow state requirements and enable the formation of the VIPs program that will foster parental and community involvement within the school.
- The school will ask parents to serve on curricular and instructional review committees. To support this process, the school district will offer both school staff and parent training on how to contribute to this process in a meaningful way.
- The school will engage parents in decisions about the allocation of its Title I, Part A funds for parental involvement.
- Responsible Parties: Theresa Cowling, Bryan McDonald
North Heights Junior High School (870) 773-1091

6. How will your school provide resources for parents?

- The school will provide a parent resource center for parents. Parents may check out materials, use the computer to check grades, email teachers, and visit educational websites. A suggestion sheet will also be available in the parent center for parental input. The school will open the resource center during regular school hours and some after-hours school activities for parental access.
- The school will follow state requirements and distribute Informational packets each year that include 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, emails, social media, Remind, Call-outs etc.)
- The school will follow state requirements 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, provide online information, advertise the current selection, and give parents the opportunity to borrow the materials for review.
- The school will follow state requirements and 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.
- The school will follow state requirements and the principal of North Heights Junior High shall designate (1) certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator.
- Responsible Party: Theresa Cowling, Lisa Lowery
North Heights Junior High School (870) 773-1091

7. How will your school engage parents in the evaluation of your parental involvement efforts?

- The school will engage 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, and school staff.
- The Title I Committee, made up of teachers, parents, the school staff, will determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement plan and make changes if warranted.
- Survey information, VIP forms, and parental sign in sheets will be collected and evaluated as evidence to determine satisfaction with the program.
- The school's on-going effort to increase parental involvement will be evaluated in every area. We will continually survey parents and the school community to collect specific information on the
 - (1) growth in numbers of parents participating in workshops and meetings;
 - (2) specific needs of parents;
 - (3) effectiveness of specific strategies; and
 - (4) engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth.
- Responsible Party: Title I Committee, Ashlie Odom, Instructional Facilitator
North Heights Junior High School (870) 773-1091

8. How will your school use the parent interest surveys to select, plan and implement parental involvement activities that will be offered throughout the year?

- The school leadership team in conjunction with the Parent Advisory group will examine the information provided from the surveys as one of a multiple source of data. The surveys will help determine specific needs of students and their parents, the effectiveness of specific strategies, and levels of engagement of parents in activities to support student learning.
- The school participates in vertical alignment of programs with Arkansas High School for upper grades and College Hill Middle School for lower grades. Meetings are held before school starts and as the school year is winding down to explicitly articulate expectations for each campus. Interest survey information will be used to address the parental needs.
- Parental input, guidance, and insight is sought and utilized in planning for academic achievement at these gatherings. Parents are asked to complete a feedback/reflection sheet as to the effectiveness of the meetings and offer suggestions for the school improvement process.
- The school will investigate and where feasible, utilize community resources in the instructional program to support and meet parental needs.
- Responsible Parties: Leadership Team, Theresa Cowling, Felicia Horn, Ashlie Odom
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9. When will your school plan the Annual Title I Meeting that must be conducted separately? (It CANNOT be held in conjunction with any other meetings or activities.)

- The Annual Title I Allocations Planning Session will be held on or before March 29, 2019. Faculty, student staff, and administrative representatives will join community leader to assess and evaluate the impact of Title I spending on student achievement and adult learning at North Heights Junior High. The group will also perform a needs assessment to develop next steps that include Smart Goals, Action Plans, and applicable timelines.
- On August 09, 2018, we held our Annual Title I Meeting after Meet the Teacher, Mrs. Cowling addressed parents of students receiving Title I services about the Title I Program. The curriculum and assessments were discussed, as well as interventions strategies such as Edgenuity-Pathblazer, Star Reading\Math and afterschool tutoring, and the Texarkana Curriculum. A PowerPoint presentation was used to show data and scores from previous ACT Aspire Assessment.
- Responsible Parties: Theresa Cowling, LeRoy James
North Heights Junior High School (870) 773-1091