

Benton Middle School
Parental Involvement Plan
2013 - 2014

Parental Involvement Committee Members

Karl Walker - Assistant Principal
Fanny Neely - Counselor
Donica Barger - Teacher
Melissa Berry - Parent
Allison Oliver - Parent
Becky LaBee - Parent
Carrie Robertson - Parent

Title I Funding Status
Non Title I School

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

The school will create a web site to house classroom web sites for each teacher. Homework assignments and pertinent classroom information will be available on classroom web sites. Also, parents can access their child's grades using a PIN number they received at the beginning of the school year. Parents may use e-mail to communicate with members of the school staff. Sherri Fite

2. List the proposed parent meeting, conferences, and activities regularly scheduled 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.)

Teachers will hold conferences, October 28, 2013; March 6, 2014; and March 31, 2014, individually with parents of children in their classrooms. Parents will be given a summary of the student's test scores and an explanation of the interventions teachers are using to assist the child in reaching achievement goals. Parents will be asked to engage in discussion of how they can support these efforts. Parents will also be given suggestions for coordinating school-parent efforts and explanations of homework and grading procedures. Principals, Counselors, Teachers

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

The school will work with Elementary Schools to help provide a smooth transition from one school to the next by raising parent awareness of procedures and related activities. The school will host special orientation programs for parents and students to help with the transition. Parents will have the opportunity to meet the new teachers at the end of the school year. Principals, Counselors

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. District PD

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. Counselors

4. 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

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.

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

The school will involve parents on school improvement planning committees. To support this process, the school will offer both school staff and parents training on how to contribute to this process in a meaningful way.

5. How will your school provide resources for parents?

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...).

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.

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.

6. 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 principal of each school in a school district shall designate (1) certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator.