

Benton High School
Parental Involvement Plan
2015-2016

Parental Involvement Committee Members: Karen Hilborn, Assistant Principal, Jill Crow, Teacher, Susan Allison, Teacher, Deann Balisterri, Parent, Dawn Brasuell, Parent, Kimberly Ferguson, Parent, Misti Hart, Parent

Title I Funding Status: Non-Title I

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

The school will utilize Blackboard Connect to inform parents of school activities, meetings, and other pertinent information.

A school Website is maintained that provides information on all school and district activities. Daily announcements are posted. Helpful educational links are provided.

Teachers will create Websites (through the Home Access Center program) for their classrooms that provide information on homework assignments, study guides, and other pertinent classroom information. The parents are provided a PIN number to access teachers' Web sites and their child's grades.

Teachers will routinely contact parents on an individual basis to communicate about their child's progress through emails, Remind 101 texts, and phone calls.

The school will provide to parents progress reports/report cards every marking period with information regarding their child's academic progress and upcoming school events.

A lighted marquee sign is located on the school campus. It is updated weekly with upcoming events and information.

The school will hold a new student orientation and open house for all students at the beginning of the school year.

2. List the proposed parent meetings, conferences and activities planned regularly throughout this year and the dates; providing flexible meeting times to increase parental involvement and build staff/parent rapport and engagement (must include the mandated parent/teacher conferences each year).

The school provides a report and explanation of the statewide assessment system, standards, and accountability measures – including results for our school. This is done in August of each school year at the Parent/Student Open House.

Student Orientation – Parents are invited to attend with their children to receive schedules and school information, and to meet with teachers for the upcoming year. This is held in August each year.

Parent Teacher Conferences are held once each semester for parents to meet with teachers to discuss academic issues and concerns. October 2015 and April 2016.

CAPS Registration Conferences are held each spring. Parents are invited to attend and meet with their child's teacher/advisor to register for classes for the upcoming school year. March 2016.

The school will participate in the district-wide family night for ESL students in the fall of each year.

The music programs at the school will present multiple evening presentations at various times through the school year.

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

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 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.

STATE REQUIREMENT – 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 school will provide additional volunteer opportunities to parents through the Athletic Booster Clubs, Band Booster Club, and Choir Booster Club. Parents will be notified of these opportunities through the school website and the local newspaper.

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?

The school will involve parents in school improvement planning and invite them to serve on curricular and instructional review committees.

STATE REQUIREMENT – 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.

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

Parents are included on the committees for the school ASCIP plan and school handbook.

5. How will your school provide resources for parents?

STATE REQUIREMENT - The school will distribute informational packets at the beginning of the school year that include a copy of the school's parental involvement plan, a survey for volunteer interests, and suggestions of ways parents can be involved in their child's education.

STATE REQUIREMENT - 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.

A Parent Center is maintained in conjunction with the counselor's office. It is supplied with resources for parents regarding help with issues in child development.

STATE REQUIREMENT – 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.

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

STATE REQUIREMENT – The school will sponsor seminars to inform the parents of high school students about how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selection, career planning, and preparation for postsecondary opportunities.

The school will utilize the local newspaper to communicate upcoming school events as well as student successes.

The school will host College Scholarship and Financial Aid nights to inform parents of juniors and seniors about the availability of financial aid and the process for which to apply.

If you have any questions about this plan, you may contact the principal at 501-778-3288.