

Benton Junior High School
Parent, Family and Community Engagement
2018-2019

Benton School District
Benton Junior High
8-9 grade level
Melissa White
Dr. Kim Anderson

Parent and Family Engagement Committee Members

Chad Pitts, Principal
Charlie Reynolds, Assistant Principal
Melissa White, Assistant Principal
Christie Schade, Media Specialist
Donna Reynolds, Teacher
Julie Miller, Teacher
Demetria Robinson, Parent
Travis Green, Parent
Donica Barger, Counselor
Laura McGhee, Counselor

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

The school will utilize Alert Now, Benton Junior High Facebook page, Remind, and the BJH Website to inform parents of school activities, meetings, and other pertinent information. Melissa White, Laura McGee

A school website is maintained to provide information on all school and district activities. Daily announcements are posted helpful educational links are provided, along with state academic standards and upcoming assessments. (ESSA Required Component) Christie Schade

Teachers routinely contact parents on an individual basis to communicate student progress. Communication strategies include: emails, Google Classroom, Remind 101, and phone calls. Melissa White

The school provides parents with progress reports/report cards with information regarding their child's academic progress and upcoming school events. Laura McGhee and Donica Barger

The school provides announcements on the marquee sign outside of the building. It is updated weekly with upcoming events and information. Charlie Reynolds

The school will team with the Saline County Library to provide public access to the Home Access Information System (HAC), for parents who may not have computer access to be able to check grades on a regular basis. The Saline County Library also provides materials and training to help parents work with their children. (ESSA Component) Melissa White and Christie Schade

The school hosts a new student orientation and open house for all students at the beginning of the school year. Donica Barger, Laura McGhee, and Chad Pitts

2. List the proposed parent meetings, conferences ,and activities planned regularly throughout this school year and the dates; providing flexible meeting times to increase parental involvement and build staff/parent rapport and engagement. (Must include the two state 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 report is conducted in August of each school year at the Parent/Student Open House. Chad Pitts

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. Laura McGhee and Donica Barger

Parent Teacher Conferences are held once each semester for parents to meet with their child's teacher to discuss academic progress and concerns. Conferences are held from 3:30-7:30 p.m. on October 23, 2018 and March 28, 2019 to accommodate a variety of work schedules. Teacher offer to make other arrangements for parents to meet with them if needed. Home visits may also be arranged. (ESSA Component) Chad Pitts

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. Donica Barger, Laura McGhee, Chad Pitts

The school provides an interpreter to provide materials in languages for all parents and students to receive information. (ESSA Component). Melissa White

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

State Requirement (Staff Development) The Arkansas 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 sand the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation. Melissa White and Chad Pitts

A parent survey was assessed in August, during registration. Parents could sign up for volunteer opportunities held throughout the year. These parents serve as resources throughout the school year to aid in the backpack program and parent informational programs.(ESSA Component) Melissa White and Donna Reynolds

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 and acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Department of Education. The school library and counseling office provides a variety of resources to help parents work with their children. Teachers provide extra tutoring before and after school. Some teachers will provide video examples of instruction to aid parents and students, during after school hours. (ESSA Component) Christie Schade, Laura McGhee, Donica Barger

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

Benton Jr High is not a Title I school

5. How will your school provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of the schoolwide 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?

Benton Jr High is not a Title I school but does have a parent, family and community engagement committee that develops a plan to involve parents in the education of their children and works with the school to make decisions in areas such as curriculum, school improvement, etc.

The Benton Junior High has formed a parental involvement committee to aid in the school improvement planning process. These committee members serve on a team to review curricular and instructional decisions, that are crucial to the school improvement process. (ESSA Component) Chad Pitts, Charlie Reynolds, and Melissa White

State Requirement - The school will involve parents in the school improvement planning process and instructional review committees. Chad Pitts and Melissa White

State Requirement - The school will use community resources and members as well as former students to form a committee, that will provide advice and guidance for school improvement. Melissa White

6. How will your school provide resources for parents?

The school will distribute informational packets at the beginning of the school year that includes 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.

Melissa White and Charlie Reynolds

State Requirement - To promote and support responsible parenting, the school shall, as funds are available: Purchase parenting books, magazines, and offer parenting informational meetings in cooperation with the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service of Saline County. Melissa White and Christie Schade

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. Donica Barger and Laura McGhee

The school will maintain the school's website and provide extra learning resources for both students and parents. Benton Junior High plans to host a informational booth at Old Fashioned Day on October 11, 2018. A Parent Expo is planned for the Spring. These planned activities for involving parents are a result of the Parental Involvement meeting held on September 14, 2018. (ESSA Component) Melissa White

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. Chad Pitts, Melissa White, Charlie Reynolds

State Requirement - The principal of each school in a school district shall designate one (1) certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator. Melissa White

7. How will your school engage parents in the evaluation of your parent family engagement?

A parental engagement evaluation survey will be conducted at the end of the school year as well as a sign in sheet to document the attendance/ engagement during the parental involvement activities planned.

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

A parental needs survey was administered at the beginning of the school year to determine the needs of our parents. Five hundred and ninety nine parents completed the survey. Parents revealed that they needed more resources to help students with homework. (ESSA Component) Melissa White

9. When will your school plan the Annual Title I Meeting that must be conducted separately? Benton Jr High is not a Title I school.