

Pine Bluff School District Parent and Family Engagement Plan

District Name: Pine Bluff School District #3

Coordinator Name: Freddie B. Jolivette

Plan Review/Revision Date: 5/7/2019

District Level Reviewer, Title: Dr. Jeremy Owoh Superintendent

Committee Members:

Donna Barnes, Parent; Joyce Hulse, Parent; Brian Taylor, Parent; Tina Martin, Parent; Rose Smith, Teacher/Parent Facilitator; Wilma Allen, Grandparent; Rev. Cecil Williams, Community Member/St John AME Church; Patricia Johnson, VIPS Coordinator; Renice Davis, Community member/Liberty Utilities Water

1: Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives

(Describe/List the District expectations and objectives for parent and family engagement. Describe/List how parents will be involved in the development of the district parent and family engagement policy. Describe/List how parents will be involved in the development and review of the School Improvement/Title I Schoolwide/Title I Targeted Assistance Plan and, if applicable, the Comprehensive Support and Improvement and the Targeted Support and Improvement plans. Describe/List how the District will submit to the State comments from parents who deem the LEA Plan unsatisfactory.)

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

The district's expectations for parent and family engagement is stated in its' district goal- Outstanding Academic Achievement for **ALL** scholars and **ALL** means **ALL**. The district's objectives for parent and family engagement are to strengthen student academic achievement and learning and close the academic achievement gap. The plan describes PBSD's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and builds the capacity of its Title I schools to succeed in reaching district and student academic achievement goals. We know that gaps in educational opportunity and achievement will only be remedied when those closest to the affected students – parents, families, and the community are the ones driving the decision making.

The district agrees to be governed by the following statutory definition of parent/family engagement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

- that parents/families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- that parents/families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;

- that parents/families are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and parents
- assist in carrying out other activities, such as those described in section 118 of ESSA and section 1010 and 1116 of ESSA.

The district's expectations and objectives for parent and family engagement are also described in the schools' parent compacts which is consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESSA and School Improvement Plans.

Parents are involved in the following ways in the district parent and family engagement policy:

1. The district has a Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) which consists of parents representing all schools in the district. The PAC convenes in May of every year for the purpose of assisting in the development, revision, review and evaluation of the plan for the upcoming school year. In addition, at the individual school sites there is a parental advisory group comprised of parents with children who attend Title I schools to collaborate and add input on the School Improvement/Title I Schoolwide Plan and ACSIP.
2. Parents are surveyed either by Survey Monkey or hard copies for input on specific needs which drives the District Parental Engagement Plan as well as the schools' Strategic Plans.
3. The District Parent & Family Engagement plan is available on the district website and is available at each school site.

2: Building Staff Capacity through Training and Technical Assistance

(Describe/List how the district will provide support and technical assistance to all its Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement practices, inclusive of school parent and family engagement policies/plans, school-parent compacts, and all Title I parent and family engagement requirements. Describe/List activities such as workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, and online resources that will be used with school staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners. Include information about how the district and/or schools will provide information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to parents in a format, to the extent practicable, and in a language that parents can understand.)

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

The PBSD will provide the following training and technical assistance to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parental and family engagement activities by:

- Conducting regular school awareness walks by administrative staff to observe parental and family engagement during the school day.
- Scheduling administrative staff to regularly attend school functions outside the regular school day.
- Providing training to principals and parent facilitators on how to engage parents throughout the school year.

Providing training to principals, parent facilitators and parent advisory groups on developing, implementing and reviewing all required parental engagement plans.

- Providing Indistar training to Title I principals and parent facilitators for completing their parental engagement plans.

- Providing training to site based parent facilitators on compliance issues.

Informing parent facilitators of additional resources, such as AR Ideas, etc.

- Conducting ongoing site visits to Title I schools to monitor implementation and compliance with Parental Engagement Plans

- Providing materials provided to parents and teachers such as: PALS (Parent Assisted Learning Modules), ACT Math, Science, Reading, Writing Exemplars, Refrigerator Curricular, Summer Learning Packs, free pamphlets and handouts, test preparation CD's, etc.

- Providing training for volunteers through the VIPS office (Volunteer in Public Schools. Patricia Johnson is the VIPS coordinator.

- In addition, the Parent Center provides workshops for parents on various topics. Although the following list is not definitive, it represents the breath and scope of the workshops.

- Creating a Home Environment Conducive to Learning

- Organizational Skills

- Study Skills

- Getting the Most Out of Parent-Teacher Conferences

- Preventing Youth Violence

- Improving Student Achievement & Outcomes Through Parent, Family & Community Involvement

- Helping Your Child Succeed in School

- Improving Learning & Grades

- Standardized Test Tips & Strategies

- Internet Safety

For the 2019-2020 school year the District Parent Center launched a new parent capacity building initiative-a Parent Academy focusing on three primary strands: Student Achievement, Parenting & Advocacy and Personal and Individual Growth.

Also, there is a 30 station computer lab at the District Parent Center to assist parents in conquering the "digital divide", and better guide their children's online learning.

3: Building Parent Capacity

(Describe/List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, online resources, and any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to support parents in helping their student's academic success. If applicable, describe how each discretionary item your district and parents chose will be implemented.)

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

PBSD will with the assistance of its Title I schools build parent capacity by:

- providing materials and training on topics (see above list of workshops)
- hosting parent meetings/workshops/classes/math, science & literacy nights
- including PAC and other parent advisory groups in developing, revising, and reviewing the Parent & Family Engagement policy
- including parents advisory groups in discussions of allocation of Title I funds
- conducting Title I meetings
- providing parents input opportunities at the Superintendent's State of the school district address ng
 - conducting an annual evaluation and parent survey to help identify barriers to parental engagement
- providing on line resources on the Parents Center's website
- providing free books to parents the entire school year
- providing free books to local barbers in the "Books in the Barbershop" initiative

4: Reservation and Evaluation

(Describe/List how the district will share with parents and family members the budget for parent and family engagement activities and programs and how parents and family members will be involved in providing input into how the funds are used. If the district does not receive a Title I, Part A allocation greater than \$500,000, then the district is not required to include a description of its reservation of Funds. If a reservation is required, then a minimum of 90% of that 1% must go to the schools, with priority given to high-need schools. Describe/List actions for how the annual evaluation will be conducted, identifying who will be responsible for conducting it, and explaining what role parents and family members will play.)

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

The District reserves a minimum of 1% of the Title I, Part A allocation for parental engagement, with 90% going to Title I, Part A schools receiving \$500,00 or more of Title I funding. The district determines the amount of the 1% set aside for each school in the district using parental input, staff, students, stakeholders from needs assessment data.

- 2019-2020 funds will provide for reasonable, necessary costs of parent and family engagement activities, parenting nights, parenting resources and provide more support to schools with highest needs.
- Carolyn Vassar, the federal programs coordinator oversees the allocation of funds with suggestions from administrators, the district parent coordinator, principals, and parent committees at the schools.
- Parents and families engage in the allocation of the Title I, Part A funds for parental engagement at the PAC meetings.

5: Coordination

(Describe/List how the district will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports and resources to families such as public preschool programs or organizations to help students transition to elementary, middle, high, and postsecondary schools or careers.)

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

The District coordinates and integrates programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, other organizations, businesses and community partners.

- The District coordinates with Federal programs like Title I and ESA.
- The District is involved in promoting good nutrition and health and a positive lifestyle through the University of Arkansas Agricultural Extension.
- The District partners with Parents as Teachers (PAT), HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters), Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., TOPPS (Targeting our People's Priorities with Service), the Optimist Club and the City of Pine Bluff's Mayor's Office.