

Mountain View School District

Timbo Elementary

23747 Hwy 263

Timbo, AR 72680

870-746-4303

Timbo Elementary Parental Involvement Policy 2016-17

Parental Involvement Committee Members

Jimmy Lowery, Principal

Nancy Lowery, Counselor

Stephanie Labert, Library Media Specialist & Parent Facilitator

Melanie Gilbert, Teacher

Holly Schrock, Teacher

Ashleigh Gatewood, Parent

Melissa Reny, Parent

Rodney Brewer, Parent

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

Bi-monthly newsletters, *The Buzz*, will be distributed to parents that are developed by parent volunteers, school organizations, faculty, staff and administration. The newsletter will contain important school events, dates, school calendar, tips for parents and testing dates.

Teachers will send home weekly folders with student homework and information regarding student conduct and achievement.

The Josten's SchoolWay App will be used to send school, class, and club notifications to parents, community, and students.

The eSchool Home Access Center (HAC) link will be provided on the school website for parents and students to access student grades, absences, missing assignments, and discipline reports.

The District alert now system will be utilized to provide parents with information regarding school closures, reminder of parent/teacher conferences, and other important information.

Upcoming events will be maintained on a master calendar accessible through the school website. In addition, events will be displayed on the school marquee.

Teachers will communicate on an as need basis with parents to discuss their child's needs through email, phone calls, and face to face.

School will use the school website, flyers, student handbook, parent signage, and other information to help promote parental involvement.

The school will provide to parents midterm reports every 4.5 weeks with information regarding their child's academic progress and upcoming classroom and school events.

The school will send home the state standardized student reports when available with explanations of student achievement.

The local radio station and weekly newspaper will be used to announce upcoming events, publish honor rolls, and to acknowledge school and student achievements.

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.)

Open House will be August 9, 2016, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.. An Orientation will be held discussing Title 1 program, Smart Core Curriculum, NSLA Funding, rule changes, and etc.

There will be an orientation for preschoolers entering kindergarten and 6th graders entering high school to discuss academic requirements and opportunities.

Two parent/teacher conferences will be held during the year. The first on October 20, 2016, and March 16, 2017, from 4:00-8:00 p.m.. Parents will be provided with current grades and discuss with parents ways they can assist their child(ren) with school and meeting their achievement goals. They will also discuss student achievement on standardized tests and involve parents in developing academic improvement plans.

A book fair family night will be held during each parent/teacher conference to encourage parent to become involved in reading to and with their children.

Donuts for Dads and Muffins for Moms will be held in the spring to provide parents with information concerning the upcoming state assessments and how they may prepare their child(ren) for the assessment.

The school will encourage parents in the following types of roles and activities to increase their involvement and support for student learning: guest readers, guest speakers, awards ceremonies, career day, various committees, Red Ribbon Week, Fall Festival, Homecoming Spirit Week, and PTSO.

In addition to the yearly December musical, a dramatic production will be added.

Math Family Night will be held in the fall.

Family Literacy Night will be held in the spring.

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

The school will will provide opportunities for parents and community members to support the instructional program through such programs as V.I.P. and the PTSO.

The school will distribute Informational packets each year that includes a copy of the school's parental involvement plan, survey for volunteer interest, 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, email, etc).

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 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.

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

The school, staff, parents, and students will provide a school-parent-student compact. This compact will outline how parents, school, staff, and students share the responsibility for improving 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. All stakeholders will sign the compact.

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 involve parents on the school improvement planning committee. 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.

The school has enabled the formation of the PTSO and VIP that has fostered parental and community involvement within the school.

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 TES Parental Involvement Committee will meet to make decisions regarding the allocation of available funds throughout the school year.

The school will use parent surveys and review compiled results at the end of year parental involvement committee meeting to make policy and procedures changes when needed.

6. How will your school provide resources for parents?

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.

The school will distribute Informational packets each year that includes a copy of the school's parental involvement plan, survey for volunteer interest, 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, email, etc).

A parent center has been created and housed in the high school library. Parents may also use the computers available to check grades and preview and use educational websites.

The parent center provides resources for parents on the school website and also maintains a Pinterest site with categorized digital resources.

The principal shall designate one certified staff member who is willing to serve as the parent facilitator. (Stephanie Labert)

The student handbook includes the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop a resolution.

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 and school staff, will determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement plan and make changes if warranted. While collecting evidence about satisfaction with the program and the school's efforts to increase parental involvement will be a part of the evaluation, the survey will also collect specific information on the (1) specific needs of parents; (2) effectiveness of specific strategies; (3) engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth.

The parental involvement plan will be evaluated with an online survey at the end of the school year.

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 will ask parents to fill out a parent interest survey at the beginning of each school year to get information from parents concerning the activities they feel will be most beneficial in the efforts to support their child academically.

The results of the parent interest survey and the end of the year parent survey will be used to evaluate parental involvement efforts and plan for changes and additions for the upcoming school year.

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 school will conduct an Annual Title 1 Meeting prior to the beginning of the school year. The agenda, the sign-in sheet and the minutes for this meeting will be separate from any other events and kept on file in the school office.