

Grimes Elementary
School Engagement Plan
2023-2024

1: Jointly Developed

Bonnie Grimes Elementary has developed jointly with our parents, a written parental involvement plan that is designed to encourage parents to form a strong partnership with our school. Grimes Elementary is a school-wide Title I school and all students benefit from Title I services. The plan focuses on strategies to involve all parents and assist families living in a low-income situation. Involved parents are essential to improving student achievement. Bonnie Grimes personnel will participate in professional development opportunities to enhance understanding of effective parent involvement strategies, and recognize the importance of setting expectations, and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.

2: Communication

Communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and meaningful.

To encourage communication with parents, the school will ensure that the following supports are in place:

1. A parent involvement meeting is held every fall to report on the state of the school and give an overview of what students will be learning, school test results, school goals, and how parents can assist and make a difference in their child(ren)'s education(s).
2. Parent Link is a texting service that is regularly utilized. This service allows school administration to communicate instantaneously with parents regarding reminders, emergencies, etc. This is a one-way system, so parents will receive text messages, but will not be able to send text messages via this system.
3. PTO and the school utilize the school Facebook and Instagram pages (BonnieGrimesGrizzlies) to communicate school events and news updates.
4. The school website will be utilized to allow partners and parents to be kept aware of special events occurring at Bonnie Grimes Elementary
5. Teachers will share classroom information and grade level expectations with parents during Open House at the beginning of the school year.
6. Teachers will develop and use distribution lists to communicate with parents daily and/or weekly by email and/or paper copy.

7. Parents will be provided with grade level learning expectations at the beginning of each quarter. **Both English and Spanish versions are available.**

9. Parent/Teacher conferences will be held in the fall and the spring of each school year. 100% participation is expected. When necessary, additional conferences are scheduled throughout the school year in order to meet each students' needs.

10. A weekly folder will be sent home on Tuesdays. This folder serves as a communication tool between parents and school. Weekly work samples and/or information from school are sent home in the Tuesday folder.

11. Each student receives a Tuesday folder at the beginning of the year. This folder contains the Bonnie Grimes Student Handbook. The information provided includes the necessary information for parents to get involved at Bonnie Grimes, as well as, school calendar, school procedures, and the process for addressing and resolving concerns, etc.

12. Rogers Public School District has a Board of Education approved Statement of Commitment to Parental Involvement, August 2004. The Statement of Commitment is published in the yearly information packet that is sent home with each child upon enrollment. The Rogers Public School District recognizes that parents play a crucial role in the success of their children in school and commits to encouraging parents to be full partners in the education of their children.

13. The procedures for resolving parent concerns are discussed frequently and are available on the Rogers Public Schools website, as well as, in the Bonnie Grimes Student Handbook (Tuesday folder).

3: Building Staff Capacity

Teachers and all staff members will receive parental involvement training to learn the value and purpose of the contributions of parents. Topics will include how to reach out to parents and how to involve them in the school process. It will also outline the process for resolving parental concerns including, how to define the problem, who to approach first, and how to develop solutions. This information is also published in the Bonnie Grimes Student Handbook. Staff training also includes the procedures for resolving parent concerns are discussed frequently and are available on the Rogers Public Schools website, as well as, in the Bonnie Grimes Student Handbook (Tuesday folder).

4: Building Parent Capacity

4.1: Bonnie Grimes Elementary provides timely information to parents regarding curriculum and assessments each fall during yearly Title 1 Nights and Parents Make a Difference Nights. Our parents are informed about curriculum and assessment through weekly parent newsletters sent by classroom teachers. Our district also sends quarterly learning expectations that focus on curriculum.

4.2: Bonnie Grimes Elementary provides Title 1 information to parents each fall during yearly Title 1 Nights and Parents Make a Difference Nights. We let parents know about monitoring progress at our back to school night and during parent teacher conferences in the fall and the spring. Bonnie Grimes student work is also sent home each week inside their Tuesday folders.

4.3: Each fall during a literacy and math night, parents are provided with books and multiple educational math and science games to engage with their children at home. Bonnie Grimes Elementary students take home nightly book bags, which contain on-level reading practice for students to read with parents.

4.4: In order to provide opportunities for parents to participate in their child's education, Bonnie Grimes Elementary hosts several parent nights throughout the school year: Meet the Teacher, Parents Make a Difference, Literacy and STEM nights, as well as grade level programs that demonstrate curriculum and instructional objectives. Bonnie Grimes Elementary PTO sends home a volunteer survey every fall. The PTO produces a spreadsheet of parents from which they solicit parents for volunteer time and/or donations. Parents help evaluate the effectiveness of the School-level Improvement Plan via a survey presented at parent teacher conferences, and during our Parents Make a Difference Night in the fall. Collaboration with our community occurs during school wide events such as our Career Day, Amazing Shake competition, Fall Festival and Holiday Bazaar.

4.5: Bonnie Grimes has a parent resource center in the library. Parents are encouraged to check out materials. Our counselor and social worker share resources such as parenting websites with parents via email or student Tuesday folders.

4.6 Websites, such as the Arkansas Department of Education's website are shared with parents at Parents Make A Difference. Teachers also model how to work with students at parent/teacher conferences. Literacy, math, and STEM nights allow time for teachers to demonstrate strategies for instructing students at home.

5: Coordination

5.1

- The building principal will attend monthly meetings with the PTA. Other teachers may attend as the need arises. The purpose of these meetings are to collaborate on achieving common needs of the students, parents, and the community.
- The principal actively seeks community volunteers to serve as judges in our Amazing Shake competition in the Spring.
- A Community Leadership Team that includes a variety of stakeholders meets yearly to give feedback our School Improvement Plan.

5.2

- Hold a parent orientation meeting for incoming kindergarteners the week before school starts.
- Determine the students who would benefit from the Samaritan Snack Pack program annually.
- Work with the feeder middle school to set up a field trip for 5th graders in the spring. Hold an assembly recognizing previous Bonnie Grimes students who are graduating from high school in the spring.

5.3

- The Bonnie Grimes PTO meets monthly. Principal gives monthly reports of the status of the school and goals. PTO members are encouraged to give feedback progress towards goals and student initiatives.

6: Annual Title I Meeting *(Title I schools)*

We hold a yearly Title 1 meeting each year in the fall. Invitations are sent home in Tuesday Folders and also sent electronically via text.

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1IN6lvGkA4KzXnp-rF0-TyUsxZX9T4en-msuNAJm_Yk0/edit?usp=sharing

7: School-Parent Compact *(Title I schools)*

A committee made up of an administrator, parents, and staff members meet yearly to develop our School-Parent Compact.

THE SCHOOL WILL:

- --Provide a high quality curriculum and instruction in an effective learning environment
- Actively involve parents/guardians in order to better enable students to meet performance standards set forth by the State of Arkansas
- Hold an annual meeting for parents/guardians to notify them of: 1) their child's eligibility to participate in the Title 1 program; 2) explain the program and this Compact; and 4) inform them of the importance of their involvement with their child
- Offer a flexible number of meetings to provide timely information and training for parents/guardians in order to help them become effective partners in their child's learning
- Provide frequent reports to parents/guardians on proficiency levels children are expected to meet and their child's progress toward meeting state standards
- Provide parents reasonable access to staff by school e-mail, opportunities to meet during teacher planning time, during parent/teacher conferences(2 times a year), or by appointment as requested by parents/guardians
- Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities as requested by parent and/or teacher
- Provide timely responses to parents'/guardians' recommendations, questions and concerns

8: Reservation of Funds *(Title I schools)*

5.1

Parent Involvement money is spent on resources to help parents access their students' education needs.

- We buy book bags to transport reading materials between school and home.
- We also purchase a subscription to an electronic newsletter that can be sent as a link in a text to parents. The newsletter can also be translated into various languages.
- Literacy, math, and STEM family night educational resources and food for families.
- Tuesday folders are also purchased yearly.

5.2 Parents are asked at PTO meetings, Parents Make a Difference Night, and at the yearly Title 1 meeting on suggestions on how the monies should be spent.

Assurances

Please read the following statements closely. By checking these boxes, the School understands the legal requirements and will meet them accordingly.

√**A.1:** The School understands that annually by August 1, the public School's Engagement Plan shall be developed, or reviewed and updated.

[ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.02.3]

√**A.2:** The School understands that the following must be made available to families and the local community on the School or District website no later than August 1st:

- The School Engagement Plan
- A parent-friendly explanation of the School and District's Engagement Plan
- The informational packet
- Contact information for the parent facilitator designated by the School.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a); ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.02.4]

√**A.3:** The School understands that a parent-friendly summary/explanation of the Engagement Plan should be included in the current student handbook.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a); ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.02]

√**A.4:** The School understands its obligation for ensuring professional development requirements related to parent and family engagement are met and that records are maintained accordingly. (2 hours every 4 years with 2022 being a required year)

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1703(a); A.C.A. § 6-17-709; Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts July 2020 Standard 4-G.1 Professional Development (D/C)]

√**A.5:** The School understands its obligation to obtain signatures for each parent acknowledging receipt of the District's Engagement Plan summary/explanation.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)(3)(B)]

√**A.6:** The School Principal understands their obligation to designate and pay a licensed staff member to serve as Parent Facilitator:

- to help organize meaningful training for staff and parents,
- to promote and encourage a welcoming atmosphere, and
- to undertake efforts to ensure that engagement is recognized as an asset to the School.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(c)(1)]

√**A.7:** The School understands its obligation to incorporate the Engagement Plan into the School Improvement Plan.

[ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.02.2]

√**A.8:** The School understands its obligation to schedule regular parent involvement meetings at which parents are given a report on the state of the School and an overview of:

- What students will be learning
- How students will be assessed
- What a parent should expect for his or her child's education
- How a parent can assist and make a difference in his or her child's education.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(5)(B)(i)(a-d)]

√**A.9:** Any School serving high school students understands its obligation to educate parents about their role in decisions affecting course selection, career planning, and preparation for postsecondary opportunities.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(7)(B)(ii)]

√**A.10:** The School understands its obligation to welcome parents into the School, and more specifically, not have any school policies or procedures that would discourage a parent from visiting the School or from visiting a child's classrooms.

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(6)(B)]

√**A.11:** The School understands its obligation to reserve at least 1 percent of its Title I, Part A allocation for engagement purposes should such total allocation amount to \$500,000 or more. Nothing limits LEAs from reserving more than 1 percent of its allocation for engagement purposes.

[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(A)]

√**A.12:** The School understands that all Title I, Part A funded engagement activities and strategies should remain consistent with all information set forth in this parent and family engagement plan.

[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(D)]

√**A.13:** The School understands its obligation to submit to the State any comments from parents who deem the Title I Schoolwide Plan unsatisfactory. These comments can be sent to ade.engagementmatters@ade.arkansas.gov

[ESSA § 1116(b)(4)]

√**A.14:** The School understands its obligation, if requested by parents, to provide opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

[ESSA § 1116(c)(4)(C)]

References

State

- [Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-1701 et seq.](#)
- [Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Parental Involvement Plans and Family and Community Engagement](#)

Federal

- [Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by Every Student Succeeds Act, 114 P.L. 95, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6312, 6318, 6320](#)

School Name:	Bonnie Grimes
School Engagement Facilitator Name:	Sarah Henry
Plan Revision/Submission Date:	April 4, 2023
District Level Reviewer Name, Title:	Melody Sebastian – Fed. Prog. Director
District Level Approval Date:	May 16, 2023

Committee Members, Role

(Select "Repeat" to open more entry fields to add additional team members)

First Name	Last Name	Role <i>(Teacher, Staff, Parent, Student, or Community Member)</i>
Susan	Bush	Principal
Sarah	Henry	Assistant Principal
Iris	Epting	Parent
Becky	King	Parent
Sabrina	Sidani	Parent
Kerri	Rogers	Parent
Ashley	Davis	Parent

(Find additional guidance on the [DESE Parent and Family Engagement Requirements](#) webpage. For any questions about completing this form or meeting legal compliance, please contact the DESE Engagement Unit at ade.engagementmatters@ade.arkansas.gov or 501-371-8051.)