

Northside Elementary

School Engagement Plan

23-24

Northside Elementary recognizes the necessity and value of a strong home/school connection. Families, administrators, teachers, and support staff must work together as a team to support high standards for all students. Our Parent Involvement Plan is comprehensive and coordinated in nature. The program involves parents at all grade levels in a variety of roles.

The Northside Parental Involvement Plan includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- an annual meeting at a convenient time to inform parents of the school's involvement in Title I, Part A programs and explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the right of parents to be involved in those programs
- the involvement of parents in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy and the joint development of the school-wide program plan
- meetings offered at flexible times such as in the morning or the evening;
- information shared in a timely manner and to the extent possible in a language the family can understand concerning
 - a. curriculum descriptions and explanation
 - b. the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress
 - c. the proficiency levels students are expected to meet
- opportunities for regular meetings at which parents can suggest and participate in the decisions relating to their child's education

In order to allow all parents including parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children the full opportunity to participate in their child's education, Northside will:

- to the extent possible-provide information in a language and format that parents understand
- provide assistance to parents of children served by the school in understanding topic such as:
 - state's academic content standards
 - state academic achievement standards
 - requirements of Title I
 - how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child
 - how to monitor their child's progress
- provide materials and training to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement
- educate staff
 - value the importance of parent contributions
 - ways in which to communicate more effectively with parents
 - how to build the appropriate ties between parents and the school
- coordinate and integrate-to the extent possible-parental involvement programs and activities with groups such as, but not limited to, Head Start, Rogers Pre-School Programs, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, and provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.

The Parental Involvement Plan is made available to parents and local community members at the beginning of each school year, during the enrollment process, or anytime upon request. The Northside Parental Involvement Plan is revisited in the spring of each school year by a committee of parents, administrators, teachers, and support staff. Should the Parental Involvement Plan be unsatisfactory to parents, parents have the opportunity to submit any comments to the school, the Northside Parent Involvement Committee, and school surveys. To the extent possible, responses to concerns and comments will be addressed as quickly as possible.

Northside Parental Involvement Goals

Northside Elementary School welcomes parents to become a partner in their child's education. The staff of Northside Elementary believes that only by working together can we help our students achieve the high academic standards set forth by the Arkansas Department of Education.

The goals of Northside Parental Involvement Plan are:

- to increase involvement of parents and community members
- to increase parental awareness of grade-level expectations
- to foster parents' responsibility and support for their child's learning including, but not limited to, a Title I Parent/Guardian Involvement Compact
- to provide frequent communication with parents on their child's progress
- to provide opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate
- to provide assistance to parents in such areas as parenting skills homework, communication with teachers, etc.
- to provide flexible conference times to accommodate working parents
- to inform parents of available community resources

With these goals in mind, Northside Elementary developed a Parental Involvement Plan that outlines ways in which parents are encouraged to share the responsibility for their child's education. The Parental Involvement Plan meets the requirements as set forth in Act 307 of 2007 and Act 397 of 2009.

Jointly Developed

One requirement of the Parental Involvement Plan is to provide parents the opportunity to participate in all aspects of the Parent Involvement Plan. In the Rogers School District, parents are involved in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs both at the district and school building level. Northside provides all parents the opportunity to participate in Parent Surveys taken throughout the school year. These surveys allow the Northside Parent Involvement Committee to gain important insight into the issues that Northside Elementary parents would like to see addressed within the Parent Involvement Plan. Because Northside Elementary School understands that language issues may be a barrier to parent involvement, surveys are available in both English and Spanish.

Parents volunteer to serve on the Parent Involvement Committee. The committee is a representation of the school's population. Northside Elementary School understands that language issues may be a barrier to parent involvement; therefore, translators are available at meetings. Each fall, the Northside Parent Involvement Committee revisits the current plan and addresses any concerns and budget decisions. In the spring, the Northside Parent Involvement Committee revisits the current plan and any concerns that the survey data revealed. The Committee revises the Parent involvement Plan to meet the needs of the school. The revised Northside Parental Involvement Plan is then prepared for distribution in each child's Informational Packet in the fall of the

following school year. The Northside Parent Involvement Plan is available throughout the year, at the time of registration, or at any time upon request. Because Northside Elementary School understands that language issues may be a barrier to parent involvement, the Northside Parent Involvement Plan is available in both English and Spanish

Communication

Communication between the parent, teacher, student, and school is vital to our success.

Northside provides students and parents a school handbook in the form of the Parent & Family Engagement Packet at the beginning of each school year. This packet includes the necessary information for parents to get involved at Northside, as well as, school calendar, school procedures, the process for addressing and resolving concerns, and ways to get involved in the PTA. This packet is provided in English and Spanish.

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. Parents are encouraged to contact the school whenever the need arises. Teachers may be contacted by phone, note, class messaging app such as Class Dojo or Remind, and/or e-mail. If you call during the school day, the office will leave the teacher a message.

Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled twice yearly in September and February. If you have questions regarding your child's progress, please let the teacher know. He/she will arrange an appointment time with you during non-student contact time. Likewise, if your child's teacher believes that additional conferences are necessary, he/she will contact you.

From Staff and/or School: Notes will be sent:

- notes and information are sent home weekly in Tuesday Folders
- if there is a change in schedule
- to announce activities or special events (Example: picture day)
- to request a conference
- parent organization fliers
- student's weekly work
- behavior concerns as needed
- to share successes
- Northside Weekly Electronic Newsletter from principal

Northside utilizes Facebook with regular updates on upcoming events, fundraiser opportunities, and more to keep parents and partners in the loop for Northside news.

[\(Northside Elementary, Rogers AR\)](#)

Building Staff Capacity

An important requirement of the Northside Parental Involvement Plan includes the component of continued staff development in the area of parent involvement. Annual training will be held with topics such as ways to communicate effectively with parents, methods by which parents can become more involved in the school, and how to bridge the home-school connection. It is the goal of the Northside Parent Involvement Committee for professional development to provide

staff with the necessary skills needed to partner with all parents in order to assure each child's academic success.

Report Cards, Progress Reports, Assistance to Parents

Northside provides paper copies of quarterly progress reports with grade level learning expectations at the beginning of each quarter. Both English and Spanish versions are available for parents. Teachers and staff also offer an Open House event to parents where they communicate grade-level expectations, state and local assessments, and curriculum information. Teachers can provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as state and local assessments and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of the child.

Jointly Developed

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Parents volunteer to serve on the Parent Involvement Committee. The committee is a representation of the school's population. Northside Elementary School understands that language issues may be a barrier to parent involvement; therefore, translators are available at meetings. Each fall, the Northside Parent Involvement Committee revisits the current plan and addresses any concerns and budget decisions. In the spring, the Northside Parent Involvement Committee revisits the current plan and any concerns that the survey data revealed. The Committee revises the Parent involvement Plan to meet the needs of the school. The revised Northside Parental Involvement Plan is then prepared for distribution in each child's Informational Packet in the fall of the following school year. The Northside Parent Involvement Plan is available throughout the year, at the time of registration, or at any time upon request. Because Northside Elementary School understands that language issues may be a barrier to parent involvement, the Northside Parent Involvement Plan is available in both English and Spanish.

Parent-School Communication

Communication with parents is another requirement of the Parental Involvement Plan. The Northside Parent Involvement Committee and Northside Elementary Staff believe that in order for parent/teacher communication to be beneficial it should be open, two-way, and to the extent possible, in a language and format that the parent can understand. It is believed that only through effective communication can each child's success be assured. Parents are encouraged to call the school to speak with their child's teacher should they have any questions or concerns. Parents are also welcome to set up a time for a conference at which teachers can give their undivided attention to the parent's concerns and questions. Phone and email contact information is located at the back of the Parental Involvement Plan.

Parent/Teacher Conferences are offered twice during each school year. These conferences are

important times for teachers and parents to share the responsibility to make decisions concerning each child's education. During these conferences, teachers will share information concerning each child's progress towards meeting the state's high academic standards. Assessments to measure progress and the level at which proficiency is expected will also be shared during this meeting. Academic Improvement Plans will be addressed as needed. These conferences are offered at flexible times in order to accommodate as many parents as possible.

Other forms of communication available to Northside parents include but are not limited to:

- Northside Parent Involvement Plan
- Northside Information Kit
- Announcements
- Website
- Planners/ weekly folders
- Parent newsletters
- Facebook and other forms of social media

School communication apps – Class Dojo, Rewards, etc Remind, PBIS

Opportunities for Parent Involvement

Offering parents the opportunity to become a partner in their child's education is a required element of Parental Involvement Plans. Parents are encouraged to become involved in our school and their child's education by taking part in a variety of opportunities. Many activities are planned throughout the school year to encourage parental involvement. These can be found on the school calendar, in monthly PTA newsletters, and special announcement fliers. Some of these activities include:

- Kindergarten Parent Orientation
- Quarterly Proud Panther Assemblies
- Parent Teacher Association activities
- Field trips
- Reading to and sharing career experiences in the classrooms
- Math, Literacy and/or STEM Nights

If a parent is unable to attend some of these school events, there are many ways in which they can still be actively involved in their child's education. Examples of this include:

- reading to your child
- teaching moral values
- monitoring what is watched on television
- helping with homework
- assisting teachers by helping with tasks that can be completed at home such as cutting or compiling

Building Parent Capacity

All parents are also encouraged to be aware of the many resources available to help their child. One such resource is the Internet. Parents might want to check out these valuable websites:

- Rogers Public School's Main Website: www.rogersschools.net
- Northside Elementary School's Main Website: www.rogersschools.net
- Arkansas Department of Education: www.arkansased.org
- Arkansas State Parent Information and Resource Center: www.parenting-ed.org
- Parent Teacher Association: www.pta.org

Another resource available to parents is the NORTHSIDE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER and we have suggestions for activities to assist parents in working with their child at home. We also have a selection of books and videos available to be checked out. Our parent facilitator, Lindsey Raberding, will be available to help you. You are welcome to contact her at the school by calling 479.631.3650 or email at *lindsey.raberding@rpsar.net*.

Parent Training Nights are another means by which parents can be active in their child's education. These trainings are offered by a variety of resources including:

- Northside Elementary School
 - Parent Nights
 - Open House
 - Orientations
- Rogers School District
 - REACH Department (Gifted Education)
 - English as a Second Language Department
 - Special Education Department

Coordination

Northside coordinates with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports, services, and resources to families.

- Local Support Groups (including but not limited to the Benton County Sheriff's office, Child Advocacy Center, Ozark Guidance Center, etc...)
- Northwest Arkansas Community College

The Principal and other staff members attend and participate in monthly PTA meetings. PTA meetings are collaborative and focus on achieving common needs of the students, parents, and the community. The School Counselor, Mrs. Raberding, serves as the parent facilitator and promotes meaningful parent, family, and community partnerships to serve students of Northside.

Northside ensures information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participant children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

The school coordinates and works with programs with various Federal and local programs that exist to help students and families. Northside works with our Preschool in enrolling kindergarteners, coordinates transition activities with Lingle Middle School for aiding in the 5th to middle school transition, and offers and works logistics for community programs to come in to help staff and students. Northside offers multiple opportunities for school-based mental health therapists to come in and work with students during the school day for the betterment of the child. Northside and Rogers Public Schools encourages and offers information on the development and participation in family-oriented community based physical activity programs.

Annual Title I Meeting

Another requirement of the Parental Involvement Plan is that each school hold an annual meeting for parents. The Northside Annual Title I Meeting, Open House, is held in the fall of each school year. The school principal and PTA President speak during the welcoming session. Teacher sessions allow teachers the opportunity to present parent information. The topics of the Title I

Annual Meeting include, but are not limited to, the following:

(As required by Act 307 of 2007)

- what students will be learning (*Quarterly Expectations, Standards Based Report Card, Power Standards*)
- how students will be assessed both at the state and local level
- what parents should expect for their child's education
- ways parents can assist in their child's education

(As required by Act 397 of 2009)

- provide instruction on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment including but not limited to:
 - monthly parent newsletters with tips for parents
 - classroom newsletters
 - PTA newsletters
 - Family Nights
 - Family Resource Center
 - Websites

(As required by Federal guidelines)

- Hold a school-wide Title I meeting at Northside to inform parents:
 - Title I information:
 - the purpose
 - an overview
 - Parent Rights
 - Parent/School Compact
 - Parent Involvement Committee
 - Use of Parent Involvement Funds
- School Improvement Status
 - Current Test Results
 - Annual Progress Status
- strategies for parents to monitor
 - a child's progress (Parent/Teacher Conferences)
 - standards
 - academic assessments
 - Arkansas Department of Education Website
 - Rogers School District Website
 - Center for Effective Parenting
- materials and training provided as needed to assist parents to work with their children to improve academic achievement
- opportunities for parent involvement
 - homeroom parent
 - field trips
 - special projects
 - PTA
 - volunteer sign up (As required by Northside)
- Class Procedures
 - homework
 - testing
 - discipline
- other pertinent information
- identify times during the day you are available for conferences or another form of two

way communication

The staff of Northside Elementary School believes that high student academic achievement is a shared responsibility of our staff as well as parents of our students. In order to show that shared responsibility, Northside Elementary School in conjunction with the Northside Parent/Teacher Organization consisting of parents of students participating in the Title I program developed a School-Parent Compact that is reviewed annually. This Compact identifies the activities of the parents, entire school staff, and the students of Northside Elementary School to develop a partnership to help our students achieve the state's high academic standards. Because Northside Elementary School understands that language issues may be a barrier to parent involvement, the Northside Parent School Compact is available in both English and Spanish.

The Northside Elementary School-Parent Compact describes

- the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive, effective learning environment that supports students in our school to meet the state's academic achievement standards;
- how parents can be responsible for supporting their child's learning;
- the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an on-going basis through
 - parent-teacher conferences two times a year
 - student progress reports to parents
 - reasonable access to staff
 - opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class
 - observation of classroom activities.

PARENT-SCHOOL COMPACT

It is our goal to engage schools and parents as full-time partners in the education of young people in a meaningful and productive way. This year we will be implementing a Parent-School Compact so that each participant's role is clearly defined. The mutual responsibilities of parents and schools are to support children in attaining high standards.

Reservation of Funds

Northside reserves Title I, Part A funds for the following parent involvement approved engagement programs and activities:

- ❖ Parent Center Resources: supplies, books, materials
- ❖ Family Training Events
 - Math and Literacy Family Nights
 - Social Emotional/Family Bonding Game Nights
 - Food and refreshments for family nights

- ❖ Parent educational events
- ❖ Kindergarten Orientation and Registration Packets for families, kits, and substitutes for kinder teachers during registration
- ❖ Planners for students
- ❖ Mass Newsletter website service, such as S'More, that translates to Spanish for families
- ❖ Parent Communication - Tuesday Folders
- ❖ Parent Involvement Trainings
- ❖ Book bags for reading
- ❖ Summer Reading Program

- ❖ Additional technology to enhance home participation in curriculum
- ❖ Parent communication - Northside Parent involvement plan
- ❖ Dances in partnership with PTA for family relationships and parent involvement

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 encourage school staff to use volunteer surveys to compile a volunteer resource book.
[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(6)(B)(ii)]
- **A.8:** The School understands its obligation to conduct no fewer than two parent-teacher conferences per school year.
[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(3)(B)(ii)]
- **A.9:** 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.10:** 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)]

VA.11: 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)]

VA.12: 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)]

VA.13: 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)]

VA.14: 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)]

VA.15: 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:	Northside Elementary
School Engagement Facilitator Name:	Lindsey Raberding
Plan Revision/Submission Date:	May 12, 2023
District Level Reviewer Name, Title:	Melody Sebastian, Federal Programs Director
District Level Approval Date:	5/17/23

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>
Anita	Turner	Principal
Lindsey	Raberding	School Counselor/Parent Engagement Pacilitator
Myka	Frederking	Parent/Northside Educator
Kaci	`Leslie	
Sommer	Cobb	Parent/PTA President
Amber	Garges	Parent
Kris	Dean	Parent
Sarah	Munoz	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 501-371-805