

Ardis Ann Middle School (Bentonville School District)
3400 SW 2nd Street
Bentonville, AR 72712
479-254-5510

2026-2027 Arkansas School Engagement Plan

Please read over the form closely, being sure to address all guiding questions. Note the Assurances section allows you to confirm practices that are *required* but do not need further elaboration within the written portion of your plan. In the response fields, you may include links to additional information that can help support your story as you answer the guiding questions.

1: Jointly Developed

Describe how the School works with parents and families to develop and review relevant plans, policies, and strategies related to engagement.

Guiding Questions

- **1.1:** *How does the School - in collaboration with parents - establish an engagement plan that reflects the specific academic improvement needs of the School, and that includes programs and practices that enhance engagement and address the specific engagement needs of students and their families?*
[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(a)]
- **1.2:** *What efforts have been made to ensure adequate representation of parents and families of participating children in the process (Title I families)?*
[ESSA § 1116(c)(3)]

The Parent and Family Engagement Program is developed with input from staff and parents. One goal is to enhance parent and family engagement to meet the needs of our students and families. Results of a parent survey inform the plan and practices as well as input from families throughout the year. This input is gathered formally through parent teacher conferences, coffee and conversation with the principal events, PTO meetings, as well as informally during events where parents are in attendance (i.e. concerts, book fair, assemblies, etc).

The Parent and Family Engagement Plan is comprehensive, coordinated and inclusive. Parent and family engagement roles are varied.

2: Communication

Describe how the School will communicate with and distribute information to parents and families.

Guiding Questions

- **2.1:** *How does the School distribute an informational packet appropriate for the age and grade*

of each child annually, ensuring to include:

- *description of the engagement program*
 - *recommended roles for parents, students, teacher, and the School*
 - *ways for a family to get involved*
 - *survey regarding volunteer interests*
 - *schedule of activities planned throughout the school year*
 - *regular, two-way, and meaningful system for parents/teachers to communicate*
[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(3)(B)(i)]
- **2.2:** *How will the School ensure information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is provided to parents in a format and in a language that parents can understand (to the extent practicable)?*
 - *How is relevant information provided in a variety of ways? (For example, paper copies made available, as well as social media posts, website links, parent apps, etc.?*
[ESSA § 1116(e)(5)]
- **2.3:** *How does the School offer flexible opportunities for meetings with families?*
[ESSA § 1116(c)(2)]

Our goal for communication between home and school is to be regular, two-way and meaningful.

In order to conduct effective communication from school to home and from home to school about school programs and children's progress Ardis Ann Middle School will:

- Prepare informational packets including
 - AAMS's Parent and Family Engagement Plan
 - ways for parents to become involved in the child's education (PTO, classroom or school volunteer, attend parent nights, attend coffee and conversation with the principal, school social media platforms, monthly counselor newsletters, weekly team newsletters
- To encourage communication with parents, AAMS shall schedule no less than two parent teacher conferences per school year.
- The school may plan and engage in other activities determined to be beneficial to encourage communication with parents, such as:
 - providing clear information about student progress and academic standing
 - online portal to provide access to their child's progress and academic standing
 - school newsletter
 - team newsletters (specific to team) sent home weekly
 - counselor newsletters
 - teacher/team emails
 - School Status messaging app
 - school webpage
 - school Facebook/Instagram
- Families will be notified of students receiving awards and recognition.
- Families will be contacted regarding students having academic or behavior problems, as well as, positive behavior and achievement.
- Teachers have access to telephones to communicate with parents before, during or after school.

- Teachers and administrators have email, the School Status messaging app, and/or school website to communicate with parents.
- Parents have telephone numbers and/or email addresses of the school, principal, assistant principal, teachers and counselors available and on the AAMS website.
- AAMS will promote informal activities at which parents, staff and community interact (family/parent nights).
- AAMS will disseminate information clearly and specifically by using language that is understandable to all parents in a multi-method approach (newsletters, website, report cards, and weekly team emails/newsletters).
- Communication will be translated to assist non-English speaking parents as much as feasible. The School Status messaging app will translate into the preferred language for our families.
- Schedule regular Parent and Family Engagement Opportunities including: (dates are flexible to subject to change as well as the platform on how these are delivered to the parents and families)
 - Open House
 - August 5th
 - PTO Meetings: most meetings are held the 2nd Friday of the month at 9am
 - September 11th
 - October 9th
 - November 13th
 - December 11th
 - January 15th
 - February 12th
 - March 12th
 - April 9th
 - May 14th
 - STAR Assemblies:
 - 1st quarter awards: October 23rd
 - 2nd quarter awards: January 8th
 - 3rd quarter awards: March 19th
 - 4th quarter awards: May 17th
 - Principal's Coffee and Conversation: most events are held the 3rd Friday of the month at 9:00am
 - September 18th
 - October 14th (Wed. due to Fall Break)
 - November 20th
 - December 18th
 - January 15th
 - February 19th
 - March 19th
 - April 16th
 - May 14th (2nd Friday due to end of year)
 - Scholastic Book Fair:
 - Fall Book Fair ~ October 5th through October 9th
 - Spring Book Fair ~ March 8th through March 12th
 - Parent Teacher Conferences
 - Fall Conferences ~ October 22nd and October 27th

- Spring Conferences ~ February 18th and February 23rd
- Empower Me
 - Parent Informational Letter ~ sent out November 30th through December 4th (parent information sent via team newsletters, Counselor Newsletter, and School Status announcement)
 - Student Lessons ~ lessons scheduled the week of December 14th
- SOS (6th grade students only) Signs of Suicide
 - Parent Informational Packet ~ week of October 5th (parent information sent via team newsletters and School Status announcement)
 - Student Lessons ~ lessons scheduled the week of October 12th
- Musical Concerts
 - Band ~ December 8th and May 6th
 - Choir ~ December 15th and May 11th
 - Orchestra ~ December 10th and May 13th
- What's Next Night
 - Monday in February (tentative date: Feb 8th)
- Other district wide parent nights

3: Building Staff Capacity

Describe activities that will be used with School staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners.

Guiding Questions

- **3.1:** *How does the School build staff capacity to work with parents as equal partners? This may include workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, and online resources that will be used to ensure ALL School staff (including teachers, specialized instructional personnel, principals, and other School leaders) are aware of:*
 - *the value and utility of contributions of parents [Title I schools]*
 - *how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners [Title I schools]*
 - *how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between home and the School [Title I schools]*
 - *how to respond to parent requests for parent and family engagement activities [Title I schools]*
 - *that parents play an integral role in assisting student learning [all schools]*
 - *how to welcome parents into the School and seek parental support and assistance [all schools]*
 - *the School's process for resolving parent concerns as outlined in the School handbook, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions [all schools]*

All teachers are required to complete Parental Involvement Professional Development Training each school year. In addition, the counselor and school administration are available at all times to provide guidance to resolve parent concerns. Our library has books available to teachers to provide guidance in building relationships with parents and resolving parent concerns.

Office staff participate in Customer Service training each year. In addition, the counselor and school administration are available at all times to provide guidance to resolve parent concerns.

4: Building Parent Capacity

Describe how the School provides opportunities to build parents' capacity to play a role in their children's academic success. This may include conducting workshops, conferences, classes, online resources, Academic Parent-Teacher Team meetings or providing equipment or other materials.

Guiding Questions

- **4.1:** *How does the School provide timely information about the following:*
 - *a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the School*
 - *the forms of State and Local academic assessments used to measure student progress, including alternate assessments*
 - *the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards students are expected to meet*
[ESSA § 1116(c)(4)(B)]
- **4.2:** *How does the School provide assistance to parents in understanding the following:*
 - *the requirements of Title I, Part A*
 - *how to monitor their child's progress*
 - *how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.*
[ESSA § 1116(e)(1)]
- **4.3:** *What types of materials and training does the School provide to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement? This may include:*
 - *literacy training*
 - *technology training, including education about copyright piracy and safe practices*
 - *resources that describe or assist with the child's curriculum*
 - *other activities such as workshops, conferences, online resources like tutorials or webinars, and any equipment or other materials, including parent resource centers*
[ESSA § 1116(e)(2)]
- **4.4:** *Involve parents of students at all grade levels in a variety of roles, including without limitation:*
 - *involvement in the education of their children*
 - *volunteer activities*
 - *learning activities and support classroom instruction*
 - *participation in School decisions*
 - *collaboration with the community*

- *development of School goals and priorities*
- *evaluating the effectiveness of the School-level Improvement Plan*
[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(1); ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.03]
- **4.5:** *How does the School promote and support responsible parenting? The School shall, as funds are available:*
 - *purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative material regarding responsible parenting through the School library, advertise the current selection, and give parents an opportunity to borrow the materials for review*
 - *create parent centers*
[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(4)(A)]
- **4.6:** *How does the School provide instruction to parents on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation:*
 - *role play and demonstration by trained volunteers*
 - *the use of and access to Division of Elementary and Secondary Education website tools for parents* [<https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/>]
 - *assistance with nutritional meal planning*
[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(5)(B)(ii)(a-d)]

To promote student learning Ardis Ann Middle School will:

- Purchase parenting books, magazines etc regarding responsible parenting, through the school library and give parents an opportunity to borrow the material for review
- Provide parent resources given out by the school counselor, found in the school library and online
- Plan and engage in other activities determined by the school to be beneficial to promoting and supporting responsible parenting, such as:
 - Parenting articles and/or links to online parenting sites are sent home per classroom and/or counseling and/or school via newsletters and social media
 - Parenting books, magazines etc available for checkout
 - Opportunities to attend parenting training (day-time and night-time and online training available)
 - Provide families with information on child and adolescent development
- Provide parents resources with specific strategies that are used in school for academic achievement and personal success skills such as:
 - Research is provided to parents as to how attendance affects learning
 - Strategies are provided to the parent on organization, time management, study skills, coping skills, test taking strategies etc

To help parents in assisting students, Ardis Ann Middle School and/or the district will:

- Parents will be given a report on the state of the student and on overview of:
 - What students will be learning, inform them of student expectations in each grade level and provide information regarding how parents can foster learning at home, give appropriate assistance, monitor homework/grades, and give feedback to teachers (parent-teacher communication/conferences, parent-team communication/conferences, Open House, share AAMS STAR Quality Matrix etc)
 - What parents should expect for their child's education, distribute information to assist

parents in understanding how students can improve skills, get help when needed, meet class expectations and perform well on assessments (teacher-team newsletters, school newsletter, counseling newsletter, parent-teacher conferences, parent-team conferences, share AAMS STAR Quality Matrix etc.)

- Schedule regular Parent and Family Engagement Opportunities (these dates are flexible and subject to change as well as the platform on how these are delivered to the parents and families):
 - Open House
 - August 5th
 - PTO Meetings: most meetings are held the 2nd Friday of the month at 9am
 - September 11th
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 - Student lessons will be scheduled the week of December 14th
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 - SOS (6th grade students only) Signs of Suicide

- Parent informational packet will be sent the week of October 5th (parent information will be sent via team newsletter and School Status announcement)
 - Student lessons will be scheduled the week of October 12th
- Musical Concerts
 - Band~ December 8th and May 6th
 - Choir~December 15th and May 11th
 - Orchestra~December 10th and May 13th
- What's Next Night
 - Monday in February (tentative date: Feb 8th)
- Other district wide parent nights

5: Coordination

Describe how the School will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners, including alumni, to provide additional supports, services, and resources to families.

Guiding Questions

- **5.1:** *How does the School investigate and utilize community resources in the instructional program?*
[ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 5.06]
- **5.2:** *How does the School coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs? Some examples include:*
 - *public preschool programs such as Head Start*
 - *organizations/activities to help students transition to elementary, middle, high, and postsecondary schools or careers*
 - *wraparound services that allow families to send their children to school ready and able to focus on learning*
[ESSA §1116(e)(4)]
- **5.3:** *In what ways does the School enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Association or organization and ensure leaders of said organization will be included in appropriate decisions?*
[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(8)(B)(ii)]

Ardis Ann Middle School will respond to the educational and personal success challenges military connected children face during their transition to a new school and keep them on track to be college, workforce and life ready. Also, we will coordinate any additional services needed with the district and/or state military liaison. Ardis Ann Middle School is a Purple Star School.

To take advantage of community resources, Ardis Ann Middle School shall:

- AAMS will utilize business and community groups for resources
 - snack bags
 - clothing
 - shoes
 - school supplies

- hygiene kids (hair cuts, glasses, dental work etc)
- Participate in Sharing and Caring
- Welcome community guest speakers
- Welcome community mentors
- Participate in local field trips to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art
- Participate in local field trips to the Scott Family Amazeum
- Participate in local field trips to Coler Creek
- Participate in local restaurant and food truck spirit nights
- Tap into the expertise in the community for guest speakers for teacher-in-service, parenting workshops, student assemblies etc
- Share community events with students and parents
- Partner with Ignite students from Bentonville High Schools to teacher and to assist students with their learning

Other opportunities for additional supports include, but are not limited to:

- Distribute a volunteer information sign-up sheet that the PTO will then organize according to interest, frequency and availability of volunteers
 - Include options for those who are available to help from home, such as:
 - AAMS Gives Back
 - Cutting out lamination
 - Help prepare an activity to be used in the classroom with students
 - Sending in items needed by classroom teachers and staff
- Host a parent volunteer orientation training which includes signing a confidentiality agreement
- Engage in activities determined by the school to welcome parents, such as:
 - Provide training for parents to become effective volunteers
 - Provide a welcoming and friendly environment that encourages volunteerism
 - Provide a designated space for parents to volunteer
 - Easy and effective sign-in method using Raptor check in/check out
 - AAMS Gives Back
 - Homeroom events
 - Teacher preparation of activity (cutting, gluing, copying etc)
 - Fun and Field day
 - Scholastic Book Fair
 - Hospitality events
 - Snack bag packing/organizing
 - PTO sponsored activities
 - Provide recognition and rewards to volunteers
 - Luncheon provided by the staff to thank each of our volunteers

6: Annual Title I Meeting (Title I schools)

Describe the details regarding the Annual Title I meeting used to inform parents of the requirements of Title I, the School's participation, and the parents' rights to be involved.

Guiding Questions

- **6.1:** *How and when (month/year) does the School conduct the Annual Title I meeting, ensuring that parents are informed of the following? (*Include a link to the detailed agenda, meeting minutes, and/or slide deck for this year's Annual Title I Meeting, if available.)*
 - *the requirements of Title I and the School's participation*
 - *the parents' rights under Title I (The Right to Know Teacher Qualifications, Right to Request Meetings)*
[ESSA § 1116(c)(1)]

An annual Title 1 meeting is held to inform parents of the requirements of Title 1, our school's participation and parents' rights under Title 1. Ardis Ann Middle School is not a Title 1 school.

7: School-Parent Compact (Title I schools)

Describe the process School will follow to jointly develop with parents a School-Parent Compact as required under Title I, Part A.

Guiding Questions

- **7.1:** *How does the School jointly develop a School-Parent Compact which does the following:*
 - *Outlines how parents, the entire School staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement*
 - *Addresses the importance of regular two-way, meaningful communication through:*
 - *conferences (no fewer than 2 each year)*
 - *frequent reports on progress*
 - *reasonable access to staff*
 - *opportunities to volunteer*
 - *observation of classroom activities*
[ESSA § 1116(d)]
- **7.2:** *How do families access the compact in order to understand the shared responsibility for improved student academic achievement?*
 - *including parent-teacher conferences in elementary Schools, at least annually*
 - *Include a link or insert the language of the compact to demonstrate this requirement has been met.*
[ESSA § 1116(d)(2)(A)]

AAMS jointly develops a School Parent Compact using parent and staff input. This compact is reviewed and revised each year.

A copy is sent to the family of every student.

[AAMS School/Parent Compact 2026-2027](#)

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

Describe how the School uses Title I, Part A funds set-aside for parent and family engagement programs and activities.

Guiding Questions

- **8.1:** *If the School is a recipient of set aside funds for parent and family engagement (as part of receiving a Title I, Part A allocation greater than \$500,000):*
 - *How is the School spending those funds?*
 - *How does the School determine the priority of how funds are spent?*
 - *Who is involved in determining that?*
[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(A)]
- **8.2:** *How does the School provide opportunities for parents and family members to be involved in providing input into how the funds are used?*
[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(B); ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(C); ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(D)(i-v)]

Ardis Ann is not a Title 1 School.

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)(1-2)]
- **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)]
- **A.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)]
- **A.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)]
- **A.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)]
- **A.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)]
- **A.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)]

School Information

School Name:	Ardis Ann Middle School
School Engagement Facilitator Name:	Amy Rengers
Plan Revision/Submission Date:	05/29/2026
District Level Reviewer Name, Title:	Christie Jay; Director of Federal Programs
District Level Approval Date:	

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>
Amy	Rengers	Counselor/Parent Family Engagement Coordinator
Kevin	McAuliffe	Principal
Reid	Pierce	Assistant Principal
Jarin	Olvera	.5 Counselor
Jill	Allen	Librarian
Wendy	Phillips	PTO Treasurer

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](#)

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 visit our website [#EngagementMattersAR](#)