

International Studies Family and Community Plan

Parents/Guardians will be invited to join the Parents and Teachers Helping Students (PATHS) group at the beginning of the year and be reminded of ways to become involved throughout the school year. The FACE plan will be given to the PATHS members, and they will be asked to review, update, and improve the plan as needed to meet the evolving needs of parents/guardians and students in our school. The PATHS president is Jenny Beth McCallum (870-219-2736). (1.1, 1.2) The group will meet on the first Wednesday of each month at noon for the purpose of reviewing such documents. In addition to meetings, International Studies will provide surveys via Google Forms that will be used to inform the wants and needs of our families by giving them the opportunity to provide comments and feedback to the school. (1.1) A parent friendly version of the F.A.C.E. plan will be provided to every family, noting the F.A.C.E. coordinators contact information and how to become more involved with the school. IS will invite parents and family members to serve on the F.A.C.E. committee to ensure that a diverse population of families are included in the decision making within the school (1.2) The school will use the RCA App, Facebook, email, and Remind 101 as communication tools for families about activities, events, student success, academic issues, etc.

A parent information packet including, but not limited to, the items mentioned in 2.1 is sent home with all students new to the school/district, during Open House in August, and/or sent home with students during the first week of school. (2.1) Each student is provided with a Nicky folder which teachers and staff utilize as a form of communication with parents/guardians. The folders are used to send home weekly newsletters, homework assignments, pertinent classroom information, paper and work samples, progress reports and report cards, as well as reminders and parent-friendly information. (2.2) The school [website](#) will be used to house classroom websites for teachers and staff members. The websites will have homework assignments, parent-friendly descriptions of the engagement plan, [parent surveys](#), contact information, daily schedules, lesson plans, and newsletters. (2.2) Parents/Guardians can communicate with school personnel, teachers, and staff by using email, texting, telephone calls, RCA App, Remind, Facebook, Facetime, Zoom calls, and/or notes sent home. In addition, TransPerfect, translation apps, and in-person translators can be used to communicate with parents who have ESL needs. (2.2) IS uses a phone call-out system to alert families of the goings-on at the school (i.e. snack cart days, announcements for award ceremonies, Parents Night Out information, ect.). (2.2) Meetings may be live streamed via Facebook, recorded for later viewing and posted on the website, and/or held at flexible times to help ensure all parents have an opportunity to participate. (2.3)

The FACE Coordinator, Lori Adams, has been trained in conducting a FACE professional development workshop for the new school staff hires for the 26-27 school year, unless they can provide documentation that they have received training within the last four years. She will utilize AR Ideas course PIB 22001 to conduct the training. (3.1) During that training, Suzanne Ray Fought, Principal of International Studies will instruct the staff on all items including, but not limited to, the items listed in 3.1 (the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to each out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between home and the school, how to respond to parent requests for FACE activities, that parents play an integral role in assisting student learning, how to welcome parents into the school and seek parental support and assistance, and 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).

During the above mentioned training, the school staff will lay out a schedule for school-wide events which include Parent/Teacher conferences (held twice during the school year through in-person meetings, Facetime, Zoom calls, and/or phone calls) and volunteer/partnership opportunities (i.e. lunch buddies, book club leaders, book fairs, and school festivals). The communication will focus on what we can do to increase student academic achievement at International Studies.

A “refrigerator version” of the Arkansas Academic Standards will be given to students and their families in the beginning of the year packet; the standards will also be reviewed during each Open House. International Studies will also host International Studies Parent House Information Night to introduce the RCA House system with the positive contribution it will provide in school culture which can lead to gains in student achievement. (4.1)

During the fall semester, the school will host an in-person Title I Parent meeting to explain the requirements of Title I, and further explain how parents/guardians can track their students’ academic progress by using eSchool and staying in contact with their students’ teachers. (4.1, 4.2) During this meeting, parents and families will be informed on how they can join the school’s F.A.C.E committee. Once they have joined the committee, the parents and families will be able to participate in school decisions, aid in the development of school goals and priorities, and evaluate the effectiveness of the school’s F.A.C.E plan. (4.4)

International Studies maintains a parent center in the media center. The parent center contains parenting books, brochures, childrens’ literature, test-prep materials, math manipulatives, and access to technology (a list of items can be found on the I.S. [website](#)). In addition to the physical parent center, parents/guardians also have access to the library [website](#) which includes links to tools for parents provided by the Department of Education, electronic copies of brochures and handbooks, and age appropriate tips/tools for learning. The checking out of these materials can be done at any time through the school’s FACE coordinator and be kept for a two week period. (4.3, 4.5) At any time, parents/guardians may request assistance from the school’s FACE coordinator with technology, connecting with teachers, and/or materials needed to help students succeed. (4.6) International Studies will provide opportunities for parents/guardians and community members to support the instructional program through including, but not limited to, programs such as book clubs, Junior Auxiliary, PATHS, book buddies, and lunch buddies. Newsletters, notices, and electronic messages will be sent to inform parents/guardians of upcoming volunteer opportunities weekly and/or monthly and who to contact for the volunteering activity. (4.4)

Parents can access school menus on the school or district website to help with nutritional meal planning. The menus show caloric values and provide examples of meals that meet dietary guidelines. (4.6)

International Studies works with several area businesses and community partners to provide in-school, as well as out of school, opportunities for students to learn about the world. These opportunities include, but are not limited to, guest speakers, interviews, field trips, collaborations, leading book clubs, hosting workshops, the fifth grade DARE training (provided by the Jonesboro Police Department), and the backpack program (provided by First Presbyterian Church and the Northeast Arkansas Food Bank). (5.1)

To help the students transition from Kindergarten to first grade, IS hosts a Preview night in February, prior to school choice. The preview night allows upcoming first graders and their families to tour the elementary school to see if it would be a good fit for their student. Additionally, on the first day of first grade, the Jonesboro Kindergarten Center teachers arrive at IS to help ease students in their first grade setting by seeing a familiar face. (5.2)

For students leaving IS for junior high, the sixth grade students meet with counselors from both Annie Camp and MacArthur in an assembly type setting. During this meeting, the counselors give

information about what classes and electives are available for the upcoming seventh grade students. Additionally, the students are encouraged to ask questions and get clarification in order to ease their transition into seventh grade. (5.2)

School based mental health is provided for students and families through Mid-South Health Systems and Arisa Health. There are therapists and case managers on campus working with students and families daily. (5.2)

A parent/guardian support group will continue to function under the same name, PATHS. This group will be involved in school-wide decision making during the monthly meetings discussion and voting on topics that have been previously added to the meeting agenda. Additionally, this group organizes and fosters parental, community, and alumni involvement within the school.

International Studies will host their annual Title I Report to the public during the fall semester 2026. The meeting will be in person. Mrs. Suzanne Ray Faught will inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation, parental rights under Title I, and distribute abbreviated FACE plans.

[Title I Parent Meeting Agenda.](#)

International Studies will develop a Parent/Student/Teacher/School compact which will be reviewed each spring looking forward to the following school year; this will be part of the annual review of the FACE plan with the FACE committee. Any revisions will be made at this time. The compact will outline how parents/guardians, 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. (7.1)

International Studies will host two conferences each year, one in the fall (October 15, 2026) and another in the spring (March 18, 2026). The conferences will be in person with the additional options of phone calls and/or Zoom calls. (7.1) During the conferences, teachers will report on students' progress in their academics through sharing of test scores, report cards, progress monitoring, etc. (7.1)

Parents and families can request meetings with teachers and staff members by phone call, in person meeting, or through email. Parents and families may also access teacher websites through the IS website. (7.1)

Teachers and the PATHS group will work together to provide volunteer opportunities for parents and families throughout the school year. Some examples would be volunteering to help with Fun Runs, Book Fairs, hosting Book Clubs, etc. (7.1)

Compacts will be available on the library website, and are also included in the beginning of the year / registration packet for students new to the school. A translated copy can be provided upon request.

The school uses Title I, Part A funds to ensure a high quality education by providing supplemental services, materials, and education for families, as well as training staff on effective techniques to engage families. Each year the funding is reviewed and determination is made about how funds should be spent for the upcoming school year by a combination of school personnel, parents, and the FACE committee. (8.1)

At the beginning of the school year, parents are provided a link to a survey on which they can provide information about materials and services needed. The link remains on the library website throughout the remainder of the school year. Families may also share their preferences to the FACE coordinator - Lori Adams - and are encouraged to contact her with specific needs and/or for additional services (8.2)