

AR
 DEWITT HIGH SCHOOL
 1614 SOUTH GRANDVIEW
 DEWITT AR 72042
 870-946-4661

School Parent Involvement Policy

**This form was adapted from, *A Toolkit for Title I Parent Involvement.*
 Ferguson, C. (2009). *A Toolkit for Title I Parental Involvement.* Austin, TX: SEDL.**

Hint

District

DeWitt

School Improvement Status

Needs Improvement School

Grade Levels

9-12

Parent Involvement Coordinator

Amy Holbert

Are you Title I Schoolwide?

- Yes
 No
 N/A

Percent of free and reduced lunch

57% at DeWitt High School

Parent Involvement Committee Members

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

Enter committee members

First Name

Clay

Last Name

Ashcraft

Position

Principal

Enter committee members

First Name

Sabrina

Last Name

Rodgers

Position

Teacher

Enter committee members

First Name

Hollye

Last Name

Jackson

Position

Teacher

Enter committee members

First Name

Clay

Last Name

McKewen

Position

Teacher

Enter committee members

First Name

Amy

Last Name

Holbert

Position

LMS

Enter committee members

First Name

Nikki

Last Name

Haskins

Position

Parent

Enter committee members

First Name

Renee

Last Name

Poor

Position

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.

- The DeWitt High School's web site is available for teachers to post homework assignments and pertinent classroom information. Also, parents can access their child's grades using E-School with a PIN number they received at the beginning of the school year. Parents may use e-mail to communicate with members of the school staff.
- Teachers routinely contact parents on an individual basis to communicate about their child's progress.
- The school provides parents with progress reports/report cards every 4.5 weeks with information regarding their child's academic progress and upcoming classroom and school events.
- Social Media sites (Facebook and Instagram) are being used to better communicate with parents about upcoming school events.

- The school posts notices in the school bulletin, districts's web site, and provides information to local newspapers about parent workshops and meetings.
- Standardized test scores are handed out to parents at open house and teachers are available to help parents better understand how to read these scores.

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.)

- Meetings will include a Gear-Up Parent and Student Information Night. During this meeting, parents and freshmen students will discuss course selection, 4-year plans, graduation requirements, lottery scholarship, honor graduate requirements, and how to figure GPA. This meeting will occur in early spring after the 9th graders receive their first high school transcript.
- The school will encourage parents in the following types of roles and activities to increase their involvement and support for student learning:
 - Fundraisers
 - Classroom speaker
 - Field trip volunteers
 - Open House

- Parent-school organization
- Various committees
- Parent Teacher Conferences are held during the day and evening to better accommodate parents. Conferences will occur on October 18, 2016 and February 16, 2017.
- Student Registration Night will occur in late spring. The counselor will hold meetings for students in all grade levels and their parents in order to register for classes for the upcoming school year. Course requirements as well as electives will be discussed.

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

- A list of volunteer opportunities and various membership forms will be included in the student information packets handed out at Open House at the beginning of each school year.
- Provide information to parents 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 understanding 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?

- School staff, parents, and students will develop 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.
- The school shall enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) that will foster parental and community involvement within the school.

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?

- Selected parents will serve on the ACSIP Leadership Team for DeWitt High School. The parents on the Leadership Team will help assess and monitor the indicators of the school improvement plan to ensure academic success for students at DeWitt High 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.

6. How will your school provide resources for parents?

- Parents may check out materials from the parental involvement shelf in the library, use the computers in the computer lab to check grades, and visit educational web sites.
- The school will distribute information packets each year during open house that includes a copy of the school's parental involvement plan, survey for volunteer interests, recommended roles for parents/ teachers/students and school, suggestions of ways parents can become involved in their child's education, 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 calls, e-mail...).
- 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.
- Include in the school's policy handbook the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions.
- The principal of each school in a school district shall designate (1) certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator.

7. How will your school engage parents in the evaluation of your parental involvement efforts?

- The school will engage parents in an evaluation of the parental involvement efforts through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by teachers, parents and school staff. A 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) growth in number of parents participating in parent teacher conferences (2) specific needs of parents; (3) effectiveness of specific strategies; and (4) engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth

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?

- Sponsor seminars (such as student registration night) to inform the parents of high school students about how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selection, career planning, and preparation for postsecondary opportunities.
- The school will ask parents to fill out a parent interest survey during 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.

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.)

**After completion of this form, the school should print and submit to district for review and approval. Once approved, the school is required to post their School Parent Plan on their website.*