

## DES Parental Involvement Plan 2018-19

1. List various communication strategies used in your school to provide additional information to parents and to increase parent and family engagement in supporting classroom instruction.

Dewitt Elementary School recognizes the value of communication with all stakeholders, therefore, it utilizes various forms of communication.

- The district website is shared and promoted for school news, calendars, school activities as well as state required information. On this district website there is a link specific to DES. Specifics include individual teacher webpages, home access (hac) log in to where parents may check their child's grades.
- The district also maintains a facebook site for those parents and community members who prefer social media. DES in addition maintains a fb page inclusive of school activities, innovative learning and other need to know information.
- Weekly news letters are provided by classroom teachers. The newsletter outlines important dates, activities, assignments and homework tips for parents.
- Teachers regularly make contact via phone or email. Parents have been given each teacher and administrators email and phone number for communication or to set up a conference.
- DES will provide parents with progress reports every 4 1/2 weeks and parents will receive their child's report card every 9 weeks. Parent teacher conferences are held during the fall and spring semesters.
- Many teachers have chosen to utilize the groupme app to communicate with their homerooms.
- For those ELL parents, DES offers notices sent home in the native language or contact is made by an ELL paraprofessional.
- The elementary school offers each student and their parents a handbook which contains important information including title I supports, special services information and other supports for all children.
- The PTO sends home a parent inventory to each child at the beginning of the school year to encourage engagement and determine how parents would like to support the classroom instruction

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 parent and family engagement and build staff and parent capacity to engage in these types of efforts. (must include the 2 state mandated parent/teacher conferences each year.)

- Parents are invited and encouraged to attend open house at the beginning of the school year. This provides parents an opportunity to meet their child's teacher, become familiar with our school, school procedures, hand book and ask questions. Parents also are given an opportunity during open house to sign up to volunteer at DES throughout the year.
- DES teachers hold district mandated scheduled conferences individually with parents of children in their classroom in the fall and spring semester. Parents will be given their child's

report card and test scores and an explanation of information. Parents working in the district who have children attending a building are provided times accommodating to their work schedule to attend these parent teacher conferences.

- Conferences are also held at other times throughout the year based on a child's needs. these conferences may be held in person in the classroom, or on the phone.
- The parent teacher organization (PTO) is held the first Tuesday of each month in the DES library. This is a time for the PTO to determine opportunities for parents to volunteer at the school for the upcoming month.
- The school welcomes parents involved in pto and those not involved in PTO to increase their involvement and support for student learning. The following are a few of the ways all parents may support DES: Teacher volunteer, book fair helper, grandparent's day, awards day presentation, field day volunteer, parents to p.e. week, open house, family reading day, parent teacher organization, red ribbon week, musicals and plays, huggers for flu shots, Veteran's Day program, family camp out and picture day helpers
- External community partners such as Phillips Community College, the Dewitt Hospital, local dentists, First Electric, the agricultural implement businesses and the county extension office provide speakers to students and parents offer educational tips in the subjects of safety, hygiene, health and nutrition.

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

- State requirements- the Dewitt School District will provide no fewer than 2 hours of professional development for teachers designed to enhance the understanding of effective parental involvement strategies.
- DES teachers hold district mandated scheduled conferences individually with parents of children in their classroom in the fall and spring semester. In addition to academic conversations a time is allotted for teachers to share with parents on volunteer opportunities.
- The parent teacher organization (PTO) is held the first tuesday of each month in the DES library. This is a time for the pto to determine opportunities for parents to volunteer at the school for the upcoming month.
- The teachers send home weekly correspondence to parents. This correspondence will include ways parents can volunteer.
- DES maintains a facebook social media page which at times will announce volunteer opportunities and contact information if a parent is interested.
- Various teachers utilize a groupme app to those parents who have requested to be informed of communication in that format as well.
- The DES preschool works in conjunction with DES when the preschoolers transition to kindergarten this is a time to provide parents information they will need to ensure a smooth transition. DES and Dewitt Middle School (DMS) also work hand in hand to ensure a smooth transition. A time of touring the new school, meeting with the group of students moving up, and question and answer time is provided for parents.

4. how will your school work with parents to create a school-parent-compact?

school-parent compact

The dewitt elementary school, and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by title I, part a of the elementary and secondary education act (esea), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the state's high standards.

This school-parent compact is in effect during school year 2018-19 school year and will be signed at the first parent teacher conference.

5. How will your school provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of the schoolwide 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?

- There is opportunity for parents is through the school's pto. PTO meets the first Tuesday of each month in the DES library to encourage parental and community involvement.
- DES coordinates and integrates parent and family engagement with coordinated programs such as the hqpp preschool, dana's house, and the current school based mental health agency.

6. How will your school provide resources for parents?

- Providing necessary as well as appropriate resources for parents is important. The school has purchased parenting books, magazines, and other informative material regarding responsible parenting. these materials are available for parents to review in the des library. Various times throughout the years informational fliers and brochures are sent home to the appropriate grade level.
- DES teachers provide parents with informational packets at the beginning of the year during open house. Parenting, homework, and school related materials are available for the parents during parent teacher conferences.
- A parent resource library has been made available to parents in the conference room of the DES campus.
- The district facebook page also publishes each month in conjunction with the Arkansas Department of Educations my school/my child campaign specific topics to support parents.

7. How will your school engage parents in the evaluation of your parent and family engagement efforts?

Parents will receive a parent interest survey at the end of the year. the survey will include the following topics: suggestions for increasing parental involvement, engagement of parents in activities supporting growth, math and literacy nights for example, recommendations on resources for parent center, and determining parent's specific needs.

8. how will your school use the parent interest surveys to select, plan and implement parent and family engagement activities that will be offered throughout the year?

A committee will evaluate the survey administered to parents. The results will assist the school team in determining the effectiveness of previous and current family engagement opportunities. The information additionally will be used to plan parental involvement for the next school year.

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.)

- the title 1 meeting will include a sign in sheet and an agenda. it will be a time set aside to explain the title 1 program, the benefits and opportunities of the program and conclude with a time of question and answer.