

District Parent and Family Engagement Plan

Omaha School District

Laura King
District Coordinator, Teacher

Plan Review: July 9th, 2019
Revision Date: January 2020

District Level Reviewer, Title:
Laura King, District Coordinator

Board Approval Date:
July 16th, 2019

Committee Members, Role:

Shelly Collins, K-6 Principal
Patricia Phillips, 7-12 Principal
Laura King, District Coordinator, Teacher
Christine Blevins, Parent
Erin Woodworth, Parent
Hannah Edwards, Parent
Elizabeth Price, Teacher
Pam Keafer, Teacher
Martha Hicks, Teacher
Genie Allen, Teacher
Susan Moore, Parent
Kerri Stobeck, Parent
Larhea Whitehurst, Parent

1: Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives

Describe/List the District expectations and objectives for parent and family engagement.

- Omaha School District has adopted the following parent engagement policy and plan. This policy has been developed to be distributed to parents of students. The purpose of the Omaha School District Parent & Family Engagement Plan is to ensure effective engagement of parents and to support partnership among the school, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement.

Describe/List how parents will be involved in the development of the district parent and family engagement policy.

- A parent engagement meeting will be held July 9th, 2019. The Omaha School District, in collaboration with parents, shall establish a parental engagement plan. Parents will be involved in the decisions regarding how funds reserved for parent and family engagement are allotted for activities, programs and practices that enhance parental engagement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families. Parents and families will also be invited to update and evaluate the parent and family engagement plan in the spring of 2020.

Describe/List how parents will be involved in the development and review of the School Improvement/Title I Schoolwide/Title I Targeted Assistance Plan and, if applicable, the Comprehensive Support and Improvement and the Targeted Support and Improvement plans.

- Omaha School will recruit parents to serve on District School Improvement Committee to develop the Title I Application.

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

Required Components

- Involve parents in the development of the district parent and family engagement plan, the schoolwide program plan, and support and improvement plans
- Establish expectations and objectives for meaningful engagement, reflecting the specific needs of students and families
- Make the district parent and family engagement plan available to the families and the local community
 - ✓ File with the Department of Education by August 1 [Indistar]
 - ✓ Place a copy on the district website by August 1
 - ✓ Place a parent-friendly summary/explanation of the parent and family engagement plan online and as a supplement to the student handbook
 - Obtain signatures from each parent acknowledging receipt of the [district's] parent and family engagement plan summary
- Involve parents and families in the decisions regarding how funds reserved for parent and family engagement are allotted for activities (*see also section 4*)
- Involve parents and families meaningfully in the evaluation, and update, at least annually, of the district parent and family engagement plan (*see also section 4*)
- Ensure adequate representation of parents and families of participating children in the process
- Incorporate the parent and family engagement plan into the schoolwide plan
- Submit to the State the comments from parents who deem the schoolwide plan unsatisfactory
- (*May accomplish collaboration through the coalition of parents and community representatives*)

2: Building Staff Capacity through Training and Technical Assistance

(Describe/List how the district will provide support and technical assistance to all its Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement practices, inclusive of school parent and family engagement policies/plans, school-parent compacts, and all Title I parent and family engagement requirements.

- Omaha School District will ensure professional development requirements are met for teachers and administrators
- Omaha School District will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support to schools in
 - jointly-developing school parent and family engagement plans
 - implementing effective parent and family engagement activities
 - jointly-developing school-parent compacts
- Omaha School District will train teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in:
 - the value and utility of contributions of parents
 - how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners
 - how to implement and coordinate parent programs
 - how to build ties between parents and the school
- Omaha School District will provide training at least annually for volunteers
- Omaha School District will place a parent-friendly summary of the (district) parent and Family engagement plan as a supplement to the student handbook
 - Obtain signatures from each parent acknowledging receipt of the (district's) parent and family engagement plan
- Omaha School District will ensure information is sent in a language and format parents and families can understand

(Describe/List activities such as workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, and online resources that will be used with school staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners. Include information about how the district and/or schools will provide information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to parents in a format, to the extent practicable, and in a language that parents can understand.)

- A weekly bulletin will be sent every Friday containing school information.
- Teachers send home weekly newsletters containing classroom/school information.
- Parents are provide a copy of the school language survey/policy/handbook.
 - Develop parent and family engagement plan.
 - Offer flexible meeting times.
 - Provide information to parents about the school's program, include parent information guide.
 - Develop and use the School-Parent Compact.

- Provide training (Parent Academy Night & Academic Success Night) for parents in working with their child to improve academic achievement, to include training on the phone notification system in order to have real-time access to their child's attendance and achievement.

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

Required Components

- Ensure professional development requirements are met for teachers and administrators
- Provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support to schools in
 - ✓ jointly-developing school parent and family engagement plans
 - ✓ implementing effective parent and family engagement activities
 - ✓ jointly-developing school-parent compacts
- Train teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in:
 - ✓ the value and utility of contributions of parents
 - ✓ how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners
 - ✓ how to implement and coordinate parent programs
 - ✓ how to build ties between parents and the school
- *(May include meaningful consultation with families and/or community)*
- Provide training at least annually for volunteers
- Place a parent-friendly summary of the (district) parent and Family engagement plan as a supplement to the student handbook
 - ✓ Obtain signatures from each parent acknowledging receipt of the (district's) parent and family engagement plan
- Ensure information is sent in a language and format parents and families can understand

3: Building Parent Capacity

(Describe/List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, online resources, and any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to support parents in helping their student's academic success. If applicable, describe how each discretionary item your district and parents chose will be implemented.)

- Omaha School District will provide information to participating parents in such areas as national, state, and local education goals, including parents' rights as defined in Title I, Part A.
- Omaha School District will assist in the development of parent engagement groups at each school.
- Omaha School District will provide resources for parents to learn about child development, State academic stands, State and local academic assessments, child rearing practices, and academic strategies that are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their child.

This information can be located in the Elementary & High School Building in the Parent Center.

The above items were chosen by the parent-family engagement committee.

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

Required Components

- Provide assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding
 - ✓ the challenging State academic standards
 - ✓ State and local academic assessments
 - ✓ the requirements of Title I, Part A
 - ✓ how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children
- Provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement
 - ✓ such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental engagement.
- Provide such other reasonable support for parental engagement activities under this section as parents may request
- Describe how each discretionary item your district and parents chose will be implemented

4: Reservation and Evaluation

(Describe/List how the district will share with parents and family members the budget for parent and family engagement activities and programs and how parents and family members will be involved in providing input into how the funds are used. If the district does not receive a Title I, Part A allocation greater than \$500,000, then the district is not required to include a description of its Reservation of Funds. If a reservation is required, then a minimum of 90% of that 1% must go to the schools, with priority given to high-need schools.

- Omaha School reserves at least 1 percent of district allocation under Title I, Part A
- Omaha School ensures parents and families are involved in the decisions regarding how funds reserved for parent and family engagement are allotted for parental engagement activities
- Omaha School ensures the funded activities and strategies are consistent with the district parent and family engagement policy
- Omaha School will conduct an annual evaluation identifying the following
 - ✓ barriers
 - ✓ needs
 - ✓ strategies
- Use the findings from the evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental engagement.
- Review and approve the plan for each school
- Review and update the district plan annually by August 1 (*see Section 1*)

Describe/List actions for how the annual evaluation will be conducted, identifying who will be responsible for conducting it, and explaining what role parents and family members will play.)

Omaha School will survey parents annually, including questions to identify barriers to parent and family engagement. The school will use the results of the parent interest survey to plan the parental engagement activities for the year. During the Spring 2020 Parent-Family Engagement meeting, the committee will evaluate the activities that were suggested by the parents at the end of the year as part of the annual parental engagement plan evaluation. This meeting will be conducted by Laura King, District Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator. Parents and family members' role will be to contribute ideas and suggestions to increase parental engagement and student success.

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

Required Components

- Reserve at least 1 percent of district allocation under Title I, Part A
 - ✓ *Does not apply if the district receives an allocation less than \$500,000*
 - ✓ *Ensure a minimum of 90% of that 1% goes to schools, with priority given to high-need schools*
- Ensure parents and families are involved in the decisions regarding how funds reserved for parent and family engagement are allotted for parental engagement activities
- Ensure the funded activities and strategies are consistent with the district parent and family engagement policy
- Conduct an annual evaluation identifying
 - ✓ barriers
 - ✓ needs
 - ✓ strategies
- Use the findings from the evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental engagement
- Review and approve the plan for each school
- Review and update the district plan annually by August 1 (*see Section 1*)

5: Coordination

(Describe/List how the district will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports and resources to families such as public preschool programs or organizations to help students transition to elementary, middle, high, and postsecondary schools or careers.)

- Omaha School will coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs
- Omaha School will conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents

Does the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the district will accomplish each of the required components?

Required Components

- Coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs
- Conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents

(See complete Arkansas Guide and Suggested Template for District Parent and Family Engagement Plan for references)