

District 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
2016-2017**

Superintendent: Sally Bennett

District Improvement Status: Needs Improvement

Parent Involvement Committee Members:

- Debra Harms – Elementary Parent Facilitator and GT Coordinator/Teacher
- Alicia Bell – High School Parent Facilitator and EAST Facilitator
- Susan Scott – Career Coach, Arkansas Northeastern College
- Stephanie Hale – Parent
- Kelley Winberry – Parent
- Joey Carr – Elementary Principal
- Teresa Lawrence – High School Principal

Goal 1: How will the LEA foster effective parental involvement strategies and support partnerships among school, parents, and the community to improve student achievement?

- Develop and disseminate district parental involvement policy: Debra Harms and Alicia Bell
- Conduct an annual meeting in the spring to update policy for next year's Title I, Part A program. Teresa Lawrence
- Reserve a minimum of 1% of the Title I, Part A allocation for parental involvement, with 95% going to Title I, Part A schools.
REQUIRED for districts receiving \$500,000 or more Title I funding
- Coordinate parental involvement activities with those of other programs such as Head Start program, Reading First, Early Reading First program, Even Start program, Parents as Teachers program and Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters and State-run preschool programs. Debra Harms
- Establish parental involvement contact person at each of the Title I, Part A schools: Elementary-Debra Harms; High School- Alicia Bell
- Conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of the parental involvement policy: Debra Harms and Alicia Bell
- Develop district parental involvement committee to create a parental involvement policy and implement parental involvement activities as well as disseminate information to the community to promote parental involvement in the Title I, Part A schools. Debra Harms and Alicia Bell
- Ensure that parents of children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have the same access as other parents including information in a language and form they can understand.
- Involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under Section 1116 of NCLB.
- The Armored School District provides a Healthy School Checklist/Parent Survey at the beginning of each school year to all parents. Parents are asked at our Open House if any would like to volunteer to serve on the Parent Committee.

Goal 2: How will the district provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement?

- Conduct ongoing site visits to observe parental involvement practice: Melissa Booker/Teresa Lawrence
- Provide materials and training not otherwise available to assist parents in supporting their child's academic achievement. Armored has Parents Make A Difference Night, Parent Scholarship Night, Annual Open House and Annual Report to the Public meeting to discuss opportunities for parents and their children.
- Enhance the awareness and skills of teachers, pupil service personnel, principals, and staff in reaching out to parents.
- Ensure, to the extent possible, that information is sent home in a language and form parents can understand. Communicate and work with parents as equal partners. Debra Harms and Alicia Bell

Goal 3: How will the district build the school's capacity for strong parental involvement?

Parental/Community Involvement Plan

The Armored School District understands the importance of involving parents and the community as a whole in promoting higher student achievement and general good will between the school and those it serves. Therefore, Armored School District shall strive to develop and maintain the capacity for meaningful and productive parental and community involvement that will result in partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the school, students, parents, and the community. To achieve such ends, the schools shall work to:

1. Involve the parents and the community in the development of the long range planning of the district
2. Have a coordinated involvement program where the involvement activities of the district enhance the involvement strategies of other programs such as Head Start, HIPPI, Parents as Partners, Parents as Teachers and Even Start
3. Explain to parents and the community the state's content and achievement standards, state and local student assessments and how the district's curriculum is aligned with the assessments and how parents can work with the district to improve their child's academic achievement
4. Provide parents with the materials and training they need to be better help their child achieve. The district may use parent resource centers or other community-based organizations to foster parental involvement and provide literacy and technology training to parents
5. Educate school staff with the assistance of parents, in ways to work

and communicate with parents and to know how to implement parent involvement programs that will promote positive partnerships between the school and parents

6. Keep parents informed about parental involvement programs, meetings, and other activities they could be involved in. Such communication shall be, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

7. Find ways to eliminate barriers that work to keep parents from being involved in their child's education. This may include providing transportation and child care to enable parents to participate, arranging meetings at a variety of times, and being creative with parent/teacher conferences.

8. Find and modify other successful parent and community involvement programs to suit the needs of our district

9. Train parents to enhance and promote the involvement of other parents

10. Provide reasonable support for other parental involvement activities as parents may reasonably request.

The School shall develop a compact that outlines the responsibilities of parents, students and the school staff in raising student academic achievement and in building the partnerships that will enable students to meet the State's academic standards.

To ensure the continued parental/community involvement improvement, the district will conduct an annual review of its parental involvement policies to examine their effect on promoting higher student achievement. The review committee will consist of parents and other community members, certified and classified school personnel.

1. 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.
2. Assist in the development of parent engagement groups at each school. Reading around the World for a parent night in the elementary, EAST Night at the high school, Open House for grades k-12, PTO meetings, Annual Report to the Public Meeting, and Scholarship/Financial Aid for Parent Night for high school.
3. Encourage the formation of partnerships between schools and local businesses that includes roles for parents.
4. Provide resources for parents to learn about child development, child-rearing practices, and academic strategies that are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their child.
5. **REQUIRED-** Involve parents through an annual survey to improve school effectiveness.

Healthy School Checklist Parent Survey

Healthy School Checklist Parent Survey

Please rate the following indicators on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest.

_____ All students are treated with respect by all staff members to include the following: the principal, teachers, instructional aides, secretary, office staff, custodial staff, bus driver, and cafeteria workers.

_____ The principal and staff establish high expectations for student achievement, which are directly communicated to students and parents.

_____ The principal and staff members serve as advocates of students and communicate with them regarding aspects of their school life.

_____ You feel the school maintains respect for and encourages open communication among staff members, parents, and the principal and also maintains respect for differences of opinion.

_____ When you visit our school, the reception staff is friendly and helpful.

_____ The teachers are easy to talk to.

_____ The principal is easy to talk to and systematically collects and responds to staff, parent, and student concerns.

_____ The school climate is characterized by an openness and respect for individual differences.

_____ The entire school and community can articulate and is committed to the vision and mission of the school.

_____ The principal develops and maintains high morale.

Parent Involvement Survey

1. What would you like to see different at Parent Nights? What could we do to make it better?
2. Would a teacher web page be helpful? If so, what would you like to see on the web page?
3. What are some things we could do to help you help you child succeed in school?
4. What is the best way to communicate about upcoming school events with you and your family? Please circle:
School Memos Newsletters E-Mail School Phone
Service School Web Site
5. What are some things you would like to see in the Parent Center?
6. What types of parental involvement workshops would you like to see the school provide?
7. What are the best times for you and your family to attend a school event?
8. Do you have a computer at home, and if so, do you have access to the Internet?
9. On average how much time does your child spend on homework each evening, or weekly?

School-Parent Compact

The Armorel School District 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 agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, principals, teachers, instructional aides, custodial staff, bus drivers, and cafeteria workers, 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. The school-parent compact is in effect during the 2016-17 school year.

Approve reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities.

REQUIRED- Provide any reasonable support for parental involvement at the request of participating Title I, Part A schools.

Parent facilitators Debra Harms (Armorel Elementary) and Alicia Bell (Armorel High School) are responsible to 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. The above named facilitators are also responsible to

- Assist in the development of parent engagement groups at each school
- Involve parents through an annual survey to improve school effectiveness
- Provide any reasonable support for parental involvement at the request of participating Title I, Part A schools

This information is made available through personal interactions, group meetings, and the distribution of appropriate materials via print and/or Web site

Goal 4: How will the district conduct, with the involvement of parents, ongoing evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy as it relates to strategies for increasing parental participation and identifying barriers to greater participation?

1. **REQUIRED** - Survey parents annually, including questions to identify barriers to parental involvement. Survey Included and given out each year at Open House
2. **REQUIRED**-Provide an opportunity for the parents to assist in the development of the evaluation procedures, including analysis of data collected. Parent Involvement Meeting agenda: September 30, 2016. Committee will meet to review the plan, update committee members, and discuss parent survey changes. A suggestion is to put the survey online.
3. Develop procedures for collecting parent participation documentation through sign-in lists for workshops, meetings, and conferences; schedules;

brochures; meeting notes; and other means as appropriate throughout the school year.

4. **REQUIRED**- Use finding from evaluation process to:

-Make recommendations to each participating school for parental involvement policy revision.

-Provide suggestions for designing school improvement policies, as they relate to parental involvement. After the survey is completed the committee meets to determine changes needed: Topics include: Review Parental Involvement Plan and update, discuss parent survey (putting it online for next year), and use a Parent Night to have parents fill out the survey in the computer lab through Survey Monkey.

5. **REQUIRED**- Develop and disseminate an annual parent activity evaluation report to share with parents, staff and the community. This is delivered during Open House and the Annual Business Meeting. Debra Harms will be responsible for the annual parent survey. The survey will include questions to identify barriers to parental involvement. Mrs. Harms will provide an opportunity for the parents to assist in the development of the evaluation procedures, including analysis of data collected. This will be done electronically. Evaluation results will be compiled and analyzed to make recommendations for any identified parental involvement policy revisions. The evaluation report will be disseminated with parents, staff, and the community via the district Web site.

Goal 5: How will the district involve parents in the joint development of the district Title I Application under section 1112 (ACSIP)?

Step One: 1. Involve the parents and the community in the development of the long range planning of the district 2. Give the schools in the district the support necessary to enable them to plan and implement effective parental involvement activities 3. Have a coordinated involvement program where the involvement activities of the district enhance the involvement strategies of other programs such as Head Start, HIPPIY, Parents as Partners, Parents as Teachers and Even Start

Step Two: Involve parents through an annual survey to improve district effectiveness.

Step Three: Explain to parents and the community the State's content and achievement standards, state and local student assessments and how the district's curriculum is aligned with the assessments and how parents can work with the district to improve their child's academic achievement

Step Five: Provide parents with the materials and training they need to be better able to help their child achieve. The district may use parent resource centers or other community based organizations to foster parental involvement and provide literacy and technology training to parents.

Step Six: Educate district staff with the assistance of parents in ways to work and communicate with parents and to know how to implement parent involvement programs that will promote positive partnerships between the school and parents.

Step Seven: Keep parents informed about parental involvement programs,

meetings, and other activities they could be involved in. Such communication shall be, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand

Step Eight: Find ways to eliminate barriers that work to keep parents from being involved in their child's education. This may include providing transportation and child care to enable parents to participate, arranging meetings at a variety of times, and being creative with parent/teacher conferences

Step Nine: Find and modify other successful parent and community involvement programs to suit the needs of our district

Step Ten: Train parents to enhance and promote the involvement of other parents.

Step Eleven: Provide reasonable support for other parental involvement activities as parents may reasonably request.

The Armorel School District shall convene an annual meeting, or several meetings at varying times if necessary, to adequately reach parents of participating students, to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, its requirements regarding parental involvement, and the parent's right to be involved in the education of their child. The Armorel School District shall, at least annually, involve parents in reviewing the school's Title I program and parental involvement policy in order to help ensure their continued improvement. Teresa Lawrence is responsible for monitoring the plan.