



Northside Parent Information Kit

2018-2019

Northside

Panthers

Northside Elementary Facts

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

To provide an excellent education for all students within a safe learning environment in order to empower them to succeed.

OUR VISION STATEMENT:

All members of the Northside family will feel connected and valued while ensuring all students achieve high standards of learning.

OUR SCHOOL MOTTO:

Where "little" paws make "BIG" impressions...

OUR SCHOOL MASCOT:

We feel that our students should be proud of their school. We use the mascot and school colors throughout the year to instill this school spirit.

Our School Mascot:

Panther

Our School Colors:

Royal Blue and Bright Gold

SCHOOL HOURS:

Parent and student cooperation is requested in observing the daily school schedule.

Northside Elementary School opens at 7:15 A.M. (Children should not arrive at school before this time, as there is NO supervision.)

Classroom instruction begins at 7:45 A.M. (Any student not in the classroom at 7:45 A.M is tardy.) Classroom instruction ends at 2:45 P.M. (Any student dismissed before 2:45 is tardy.)

Car Rider Dismissal begins at 2:50 P.M. Bus Rider Dismissal begins at 2:45 P.M.

Walker/Bicycle Rider Dismissal begins at 2:55 PM. The Northside School office closes at 3:00 PM.

Northside Elementary Expectations

SCHOOL VISITATION:

We encourage parents to visit our school frequently and to actively participate in their child's education. You are always welcome here! For the protection of our students and staff, all visitors are asked to please check in at the office upon arrival. There you will be given a "Visitor" tag. Please wear this tag during your time in our school.

You are welcome to join your child for lunch, volunteer in the classroom, read to students, etc. When you arrive to eat lunch with your child, please wait in the cafeteria for the lunch period to begin. You and your child will have a designated table to sit where you can visit and enjoy your lunch. Food from other sources may only be given to your child. You may not provide food for other children during school lunch. Please do not disrupt the class while you are waiting for lunch to begin. We ask that your school visits be centered on the education of every student. Although our staff would like the opportunity to talk with you at every visit, our priority is the education of our students. If you have questions or concerns about your child that you would like to discuss, our staff would be more than happy to meet with you during non-student contact times. Please feel free to schedule an appointment with the office. Conferencing during our non-student contact times allows our staff to be able to fully focus on your questions or concerns.

Our principal, assistant principal, teacher, social worker, nurse and/or counselor would be pleased to conference with you at any time. Once again, all we ask is that you call the office to schedule a time. This ensures that we will be able to give your child and your concerns the proper time and attention they deserve with the least amount of distractions.

Should you need to give your child a message, medication, homework, lunch money, supplies, etc., please check in at the office. The office staff will deliver items and messages during a time that will be least disruptive to the classroom-learning environment.

COMMUNICATION:

Communication between the parent, teacher, student, and school is vital to our success. Parents are encouraged to contact the school whenever the need arises. Teachers may be contacted by phone, note, and/or e-mail. If you call during the school day, the office will leave the teacher a message. Your child's teacher will return your call as soon as possible during non-student contact times.

Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled twice yearly in September and February. If you have questions regarding your child's progress, please let the teacher know. He/she will arrange an appointment time with you during non-student contact time. Likewise, if your child's teacher believes that additional conferences are necessary, he/she will contact you.

Here are some other examples of times communication is expected.

From Parents: Notes are needed when:

- a student has been absent (be sure to state the reason for their absence)
- a student is going to visit or take a visitor home (both children must bring a note)
- you wish your child to go home a different way than usual (children without notes will be sent home their customary way)
- a different person is picking your child up from school (children without notes will be sent home their customary way)
- you wish your child to be excused from P.E. and/or Recess due to an illness or injury (in order to miss P.E. and/or recess, your child must have a doctor's excuse)
- if you will be picking your child up early for an appointment (please make sure to check your child out through the office)

From Staff and/or School: Notes will be sent:

- notes and information are sent home in weekly folders every Tuesday
- if there is a change in schedule
- to announce activities or special events (Example: picture day)
- to request a conference
- parent organization fliers
- student's weekly work
- behavior concerns as needed
- to share successes

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance is expected every day. Unless your child is running a fever, experiencing vomiting or diarrhea, contagious, or under doctor's care, their attendance at school is the single-most important factor in your child's educational success.

In an effort to support your child's attendance, parents are encouraged to make all appointments before or after school hours when possible. Extracurricular lessons or activities should be scheduled outside of school hours.

Should your child miss school for any reason, please send a note to the office stating your child's name, the days they were absent, and reason.

If your child misses a total of five days in a semester, you will receive an attendance reminder letter in the mail and may be called by the school social worker. If your child misses a total of ten days in a semester, you will receive a second attendance reminder letter in the mail.

Should the number of days absent or the number of tardies become excessive, you will be contacted by the school social worker and your child's attendance information will be submitted to DHS or the Benton County court system. Local authorities will investigate the cause of the excessive absences or tardies. All of our students need to be in school every day, learning. Regular

attendance is necessary in order for your child to meet grade-level expectations. We appreciate your help and support in this important matter.

Make-Up Work:

If your child is absent for two consecutive days and you would like to pick up their assignments, please notify the office by 9:00 AM. Their work will be ready for you to pick up after 1:45 in the office. If their work is requested after noon, it will not be ready until the following morning. Students are allowed the equal number of days to make up assignments as the number of days they were absent from school.

STUDENT APPEARANCE:

A student's appearance (clothing, cleanliness, and accessories) are expected to be comfortable, seasonally appropriate, and not interfere with the classroom environment by disturbing or distracting other students. Students should not wear the following to school:

- clothing that advertises tobacco, alcohol, or illegal products
- clothing that exhibits suggestive language or symbols
- gang-related clothing
- hats, hoods or head scarves (hats will only be allowed on special spirit days)
- see-through clothing
- shirts or tops that do not cover the midriff or show cleavage
- shorts or skirts that are shorter than finger-tip length
- clothing that is too tight or too loose
- cleats, taps, wheelies, or high heels
- tube tops
- tank tops with thin straps

The school reserves the right to determine if a student's clothing or appearance is disruptive to the learning environment.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR:

One of the most important lessons that educators teach is self-discipline. It is the shared responsibility of the home and the school to accomplish this goal. Training and instruction develops self-control, character, orderliness, and efficiency.

Self-discipline is the key to good conduct and proper consideration for other people. At Northside Elementary, we recognize and praise good behavior, and when necessary we take corrective actions while encouraging self-discipline.

Northside students are expected to put forth their best effort and at all times conduct themselves in a manner that will promote a safe and orderly learning environment for all our students. In order to support our students, school and classroom procedures, rules, and behavior are taught to all children.

Northside Elementary School recognizes that effective school discipline can best be achieved and maintained through the cooperative efforts of parents, educators, and students. Everyone has the right to expect a wholesome atmosphere that is conducive to learning.

Building-wide Non-negotiable Procedures:

- Follow directions by all adults
- Show kindness and respect to everyone
- Be prepared and on time for all classes
- Move about the building silently, following school procedures

Bullying is strictly prohibited. Any act intended to cause emotional or physical harm or to threaten, intimidate, or damage reputations or friends is considered bullying behavior. This includes teasing, taunting, name-calling, rumor-spreading, tripping, pushing, hitting, excluding other people, extorting money or other things of value, damaging property, or any other act intended to belittle or intimidate.

Any disruptive behavior, inappropriate language, or hurtful act that keeps the teacher from teaching or students from learning will not be tolerated. This behavior will be subject to corrective measures.

Acceptable Corrective Measures include:

- teacher/student conference
- loss of privileges or preferred activities
- time-out in the classroom or office
- communication with the parent via note, telephone
- parent/teacher conference
- referral to counselor
- referral to principal and/or assistant principal
- in-school suspension
- out-of-school suspension

A detailed district discipline policy will be **available** home with each student during the first week of school or upon enrollment during the year.

General Student Regulations:

Students are responsible for their personal property. **Articles of clothing and personal belongings should be marked with your child's name.** Lost and Found items are placed in the cafeteria to be claimed. Any items left over Winter Break, Spring Break, or the last day of school will be donated to a local charity.

Cell phones are allowed on school property. However, making calls, receiving calls, and texting are not allowed during school hours. Cell phones should remain off and in the child's backpack. Use of a cell phone or electronic devices during the school day is not allowed unless such use has been specifically approved by the principal.

Students may not bring these items to school:

- large amounts of money
- pets
- guns-real or toy

- knives
- BB shot or ammunition
- firecrackers
- matches/lighters
- hard balls such as baseballs, golf balls
- baseball bats
- trading cards (Example: Pokemon cards)
- skateboards
- scooters
- rollerblades/wheelies
- gum
- pagers
- laser pointers
- CD player/radio
- toys
- party invitations, unless each member of the class is invited
- energy drinks

Northside Elementary School reserves the right to control behavior which does not support good order, discipline, and learning even though such behavior is not directly specified in the preceding section. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items brought to school.

Process for Resolving Conflicts:

Any person who feels concerned about any matter connected with the schools should first contact the appropriate teacher, staff member or principal. If the concern cannot be resolved, then the Assistant Superintendent, followed by the Superintendent.

Northside Elementary Procedures

Please remember, no cell phone usage while in a school zone.

This includes the car rider line.

It is a violation of Arkansas State Law to Text and Drive at any time: (27-51-1504) "...a driver shall not use a handheld wireless telephone for wireless interactive communication while operating a motor vehicle."

Additionally, Arkansas State Law also prohibits Talking on a Cell Phone in a School Zone: (27-51-1609). "...a driver of a motor vehicle shall not use a handheld wireless telephone while operating a motor vehicle when passing a school building or school zone during hours when children are present and outside the building."

These regulations went into effect in 2011

ARRIVAL PROCEDURES:

Because of state and federal labor laws, there is no adult supervision on school premises before 7:15 AM or after 3:00 PM. For your child's safety, please do not leave them unattended during these times.

Car Riders/Walkers:

All car riders should enter the building through main entrance doors.

We need parental cooperation to ensure the safety of all children. For your child's safety, please only let your child out of the car in the drop-off lane. (The drop-off lane is closest to the sidewalk. The outside lane is reserved for moving cars.)

To allow traffic to move smoothly, please park your vehicle in the parking spaces provided to the right at the main entrance into the school. Cars parked in the passing or drop-off lanes cause delays. The spaces at the main entrance into the school are the preferred parking spaces for all visitors. The lot west of the school is reserved for bus and teacher parking. The lot east of the school is teacher parking and delivery only. We appreciate your help with our limited parking situation.

Bus Riders:

Bus riders enter the building using the west entrance.

Bicycle Riders:

Students may ride their bicycles to school; however, the school does not accept the responsibility for the security of any bike. Locks are recommended. Motorized bikes, scooters, and skateboards are not allowed on school grounds. For safety reasons, students should dismount their bikes while on school property. Once off school grounds, students may ride.

Bicycles are parked the duration of the day at the bike rack.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES:

The school day ends at 2:45.

Teachers are to be informed of a student's dismissal transportation. Please notify your child's teacher **in writing** if their way of transportation changes. Unless information is provided in writing from the parent or guardian, the student will be dismissed following their usual manner. Phone calls to change the way a student is dismissed are highly discouraged because this can lead to confusion about how a child is to go home. **Phone calls to change how your child will go home should only be made during an emergency situation.** If your child is going home with someone else or is bringing someone home with him/her, BOTH CHILDREN must have a note. This is a safety issue. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Car Riders:

Car riders will be dismissed from inside the main entrance. Drivers are to proceed all the way down Crescent Street. Turn right two times until reaching the entrance of the school. At this time, two lanes of cars will progress through the pick-up zone where a staff member will announce your child's name. Keep pulling forward with the flow of traffic until you reach the loading zone, where your child will load from one of the sidewalk stations. Once all students are loaded, drivers will be given a signal to proceed out of the pick-up zone.

If your child is not ready to load once your car has reached the loading zone, you may be asked to move to a parking place so that traffic may continue to flow.

In order to help traffic move as smoothly and safely as possible, please have a pick-up sign in the front window of your car. Please list your child's last name in large print at the top of the sign. Below, list all first names in smaller print. If you have room, printing a grade level to the right of the first names will help us.

Students will not be dismissed at the front door.

Bus Riders:

Bus riders will be dismissed from the west entrance. Students are expected to go directly to their bus.

Walkers:

Walkers will be dismissed after buses have left. Parents who choose to walk with their child will need to wait outside the west door until the students are escorted out of the building.

Bicycle Riders:

Bicycle riders will exit the building with the walkers.

Children Remaining After 3:00:

All students remaining at 3:00 will be placed in the After-School Care Program. There will be a charge for this service.

CHECKOUT PROCEDURES

Attendance is an important component of a student's educational success. If your child must leave during the school day, please remember:

- a parent or guardian must come in to the office to sign out the child
- staff will summon your child to the office via the intercom
- your child will only be released to you unless you notify the office otherwise
- staff may ask to see identification

SCHOOL MEALS

- School breakfast and lunch are served daily
- Children may bring their lunches to school (*for safety reasons, please do not bring glass bottles*)
- Parents are encouraged to join their child for breakfast and/or lunch. Please call the school office prior to 9:00 AM the day of your visit to ensure that a meal will be prepared for you. There will be a designated table for parents to eat with their child.
- Bringing outside food for lunch for your child is permitted; however, food cannot be brought into the school for children of whom you are not the guardian
- Lunch money should be sent on Mondays for the entire week

Lunch is served each day.

Regular Lunch Price	\$2.45 per day...	\$11.75 per week
Reduced Lunch Price	\$0.40 per day...	\$2.00 per week
Adult Lunch Price	\$3.75 per day	
Adult Breakfast Price	\$2.00 per day	
Additional Milk	\$0.25	

Breakfast in the classroom is served from 7:30-7:45 each day. Students are **not** charged for breakfast in the classroom.

To ensure your child's cafeteria account is credited appropriately when paying for lunch by check, please include:

- child's full name
- teacher's name

When paying for lunch by cash, please send money in an envelope and include:

- child's full name
- teacher's name
- amount enclosed

When paying online:

- Contact school for your child's login and ID

- Go to the Rogers District website (rogersschools.net)
- Click on Payments
- Click on School Cafe

Applications for free or reduced meals are available in the office. These applications should be returned as soon as possible. Only one application per Northside household needs to be filled out. Parents of children qualifying for assistance will need to pay for their meals until applications have been processed. If students were on the meal assistance program in Rogers last year, they will still need to complete an application for this school year. These students will only be able to use last year's status for up to twenty days.

RECESS PROCEDURES:

All children will participate in recess when weather permits unless the child has a note from a doctor or parent. Every child will have one twenty-minute recess every day.

In the case of extreme heat or cold, we will only be out for a short period of time. Please see that your child always brings appropriate outdoor clothing.

TEXTBOOK/SCHOOL PROPERTY PROCEDURES:

Textbooks are furnished free of charge. If textbooks and/or other school property are lost or damaged beyond reasonable use, parents or guardians will be charged the full replacement price.

Search and Seizure:

In the assignment of school property to a student, the school retains the ownership of such and the right to inspect it or reclaim it. Searches of school property may be conducted at any time.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

The quickest way to find out if schools are closed or will be closing is by looking at the district web page. <http://rogersschools.net>

Also, the school will use the school notification system to call you. Please make sure your contact information is up to date at all times.

During snow and icy conditions, local radio stations will announce if school will be in session or dismissed early. It is impossible many times to predict the road conditions in advance. The decision concerning bus operations may have to be made shortly before regular bus departure time. If during the day, weather conditions become severe enough to require busses to make their runs before the regularly scheduled time, local radio and television stations will be notified. On such a day, our phone lines become jammed with numerous calls. We will answer each one as quickly and as efficiently as possible. In order to help our Staff, we ask that parents make advance provisions for this case. Our office staff needs our limited phone lines to obtain updated weather information and instructions from our Central Administration.

TELEPHONE PROCEDURES:

The school telephone is for business calls only. We have a limited number of lines for a school community containing over 550 members. Necessary plans should be made with your child before leaving home.

If necessary, your child's teacher will be more than happy to return your call during non-student contact time. Please feel free to request a return call if you would like to speak to your child's teacher.

HEALTH SERVICES PROCEDURES

A registered nurse or a nurse paraprofessional will be in our building every day.

Various screening will occur in designated grade levels throughout the year. Some students will be weighed and measured. Vision and hearing screenings will also occur. Scoliosis screening (curvature of the spine) is completed with students in upper grade levels.

It is important for parents to bring to the school's attention any medical problems or allergies that might affect a child's academic or behavioral performance. The nurse or paraprofessional can communicate your child's needs with the teacher and modify and/or excuse your child from activities as needed.

If a child is injured or becomes ill at school, parents will be notified. If the parent cannot be reached, then the person designated as an emergency contact will be called. **Please be sure to keep the school notified of any changes in telephone numbers, addresses, places of employment, and emergency contacts.** This will help ensure that you receive notification of your child's needs as quickly as possible.

Medication:

Parents, with the cooperation of physicians are requested to schedule all medication to be given at home whenever possible. In the case that medication must be given at school, written permission from the child's parent or guardian must be on file in the office before school personnel are permitted to administer medication. Medication cannot be given unless it is in a prescription container that is clearly marked with your child's name, dosage, when it is to be given, and the name of the medication. Most local pharmacists are aware of school policy and will gladly give you an extra container when asked. Students will not be allowed to transport medication on the bus.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Northside Elementary School wants to shape young minds by offering them exposure to a variety of activities that can enrich our student's academic learning.

Library/Media Center:

Our School Library/Media Center is a source of pride. It is well equipped and a vital part of our school's instructional program. Through regularly scheduled class times and open library times,

students are exposed to many books, research materials, audio-visual materials, and computer software. Students are encouraged to use all materials and check out books as often as needed.

In order to maintain an adequate collection, students, teachers, and parents must cooperate to see that materials are returned on time and in good condition. If materials are damaged or lost, your child will be charged for the book. A flat rate of \$20 is charged for all lost books.

Physical Education:

Physical education is offered to all students, kindergarten through fifth.

If a student's participation has some limitations, it will be necessary to submit a written note to the nurse to be excused from any activities. Continued limitation will require a medical doctor's written excuse.

Regular school clothing is satisfactory for physical education activities. However, sturdy footwear such as tennis shoes is needed for most activities. Tennis shoes are required on scheduled Physical Education (P.E.) days.

Art:

Art is offered to elementary students in **first** through grade five.

Music:

Music is offered to elementary students in kindergarten through fifth grade.

Guidance:

The counseling/guidance program at Northside Elementary is designed to help all students reach their fullest potential. The counselor offers guidance lessons to every student in kindergarten to fifth grade. These lessons focus on social issues that will help each child develop problem solving, communication, interpersonal relationship and career skills.

Our counselor is also available to conference with students one-on-one or in small groups. Students may request to see the counselor when needed. Parents and teachers are encouraged to seek out the counselor to help any student in need. Our counselor also monitors the weekend snack program, helps with basic needs, as well as being available during crisis.

Outside Counseling Agencies:

Our school has a partnership with both Ozark Guidance Center. If your student would benefit from more intensive counseling support, please call our school counselor to request more information.

Awards:

Students are awarded recognition for their performance in the classroom. Award assemblies occur throughout the year. Parents are invited to attend these special days. Watch the school's newsletter for dates and times.

School Parties:

School parties are organized twice during the year, winter and Valentine's Day. Refreshments and games are enjoyed. Homeroom mothers direct these festivities. Anyone interested in volunteering for this position need only volunteer at the beginning of the school year.

Other parties or food celebrations are not allowed. The Arkansas Department of Education rules prohibit treats at school except on designated party days or other days sanctioned by the school. **Please do not bring treats to school for your child or their class on non-specified days.**

SPECIAL SERVICES:

Teachers with professional preparation in speech and language pathology, developmental learning problems, specific learning disabilities, intellectual disabilities, and gifted teach a large cross section of our Northside population. Students are taught in the least restrictive environment that is appropriate for the individual child. The continuum of services includes speech class, occupational therapy, physical therapy, resource, self-contained, and REACH classes.

Northside is a school that believes in the concept of inclusion. Inclusion truly intends to have children in their least restrictive environment. Through inclusion, students receive their support services while staying in their regular classroom as much as possible.

PARENT ACTIVITIES:

Parent Involvement:

Northside Elementary school staff believe that the link between the home and the school is so important to your child's education. We encourage parents to partner with their child's teacher to provide the best educational opportunities for your child.

Act 603 of 2003, 307 of 2007, and 397 of 2009 requires all public schools to create a parent involvement plan. The purpose of this plan is to outline a way by which parents, staff, and community can work together to support each child's education. This plan is part of the overall school improvement plan. A copy of this plan is given at the beginning of each school year, upon enrollment, and is available in the Parent Resource Center.

The goals of the Northside Parent Involvement Plan are:

- to increase involvement of parents and community members
- to increase parental awareness of grade-level expectations
- to provide assistance to parents in academic areas and parenting skills as needed

Communication with parents should be regular, on-going, and two-way. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher with any question or concern.

Parent meetings will be held to inform parents of school status, spending of federal monies, student expectations, grading, state and federal testing and results, and student progress. Resources and suggested tips will be provided to assist parents as they work with their child at home. A volunteer survey is sent home at the beginning of each school year or upon enrollment. It offers parents ways in which they can become involved in their child's education.

PTA:

Northside Elementary is the school for your child! Becoming involved in PTA provides an opportunity to contribute suggestions for the improvement of the educational program. Our PTA is an active one! Throughout the year, many educational, fun-filled functions and activities will take place. Please watch the newsletter for more information about the PTA happenings each month,

Newsletter:

Panther Paws is our Northside newsletter sponsored by the PTA. It is published once a month-usually on the last Tuesday of the month. This informational newsletter will keep you up-to-date on events, fundraisers, needs, activities, and other happenings of the PTA. It will offer opportunities for you to be involved in your child's education.

Website:

For those of you with computer access, check out our district's website for the latest information about school. Calendars, lunch menus, school weather announcements, educational links, and so much more are at your disposal. The address is www.rogersschools.net

Equal Opportunity:

The Rogers Public School District does not discriminate in its policies and programs on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, age, sex, handicap, national origin, or ancestry. Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX or Title VI may be referred to the Equity Coordinator, 636-3910.

2018-2019 NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY
VOLUNTEER SIGN UP SHEET

Teacher: _____

Student: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Preferred method of contact: _____ Phone _____ Text _____ E-mail

Please select the option that best fits **YOU!**

_____ Homeroom parent (Coordinate classrooms parties, communicate with parents to help with events/supplies.)

_____ Prepare weekly folders on Tuesday

_____ Donate supplies or money for parties (December/February/other approved days)

_____ Donate time (Help with parties, field trips, field day, volunteer time in the classroom, career day, etc.)

You will be contacted soon by your teacher or the PTA volunteer coordinator!
Thank you for volunteering! With your help, we will have a super year at Northside!

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO YOUR CLASSROOM TEACHER!!!





Northside Elementary School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

Northside Elementary
807 North 6th Street
Rogers, AR 72756
(479) 631-3650
Fax: (479) 631-3652
<http://rogersschools.net>

Where little paws make BIG impressions...

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN FOR NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY

Parental Involvement Plan Overview

Northside Elementary recognizes the necessity and value of a strong home/school connection. Families, administrators, teachers, and support staff must work together as a team to support high standards for all students. Our Parent Involvement Plan is comprehensive and coordinated in nature. The program involves parents at all grade levels in a variety of roles.

The Northside Parental Involvement Plan includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- an annual meeting at a convenient time to inform parents of the school's involvement in Title I, Part A programs and explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the right of parents to be involved in those programs
- the involvement of parents in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy and the joint development of the school-wide program plan
- meetings offered at flexible times such as in the morning or the evening;
- information shared in a timely manner and to the extent possible in a language the family can understand concerning
 - a. curriculum descriptions and explanation
 - b. the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress
 - c. the proficiency levels students are expected to meet
- opportunities for regular meetings at which parents can suggest and participate in the decisions relating to their child's education

In order to allow all parents including parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children the full opportunity to participate in their child's education, Northside will:

- to the extent possible-provide information in a language and format that parents understand
- provide assistance to parents of children served by the school in understanding topics such as:
 - state's academic content standards
 - state academic achievement standards
 - requirements of Title 1
 - how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child
 - how to monitor their child's progress
- provide materials and training to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement
- educate staff

- value and importance of parent contributions
- ways in which to communicate more effectively with parents
- how to build the appropriate ties between parents and the school
- coordinate and integrate-to the extent possible-parental involvement programs and activities with groups such as, but not limited to, Head Start, Rogers Pre-School Programs, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, and provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request

The Parental Involvement Plan is made available to parents and local community members at the beginning of each school year, during the enrollment process, or anytime upon request. The Northside Parental Involvement Plan is revisited in the spring of each school year by a committee of parents, administrators, teachers, and support staff. Should the Parental Involvement Plan be unsatisfactory to parents, parents have the opportunity to submit any comments to the school, the Northside Parent Involvement Committee, and school surveys. To the extent possible, responses to concerns and comments will be addressed as quickly as possible.

Northside Parental Involvement Goals

Northside Elementary School welcomes parents to become a partner in their child's education. The staff of Northside Elementary believes that only by working together can we help our students achieve the high academic standards set forth by the Arkansas Department of Education.

The goals of Northside Parental Involvement Plan are:

- to increase involvement of parents and community members
- to increase parental awareness of grade-level expectations
- to foster parents' responsibility and support for their child's learning including, but not limited to, a Title I Parent/Guardian Involvement Compact
- to provide frequent communication with parents on their child's progress
- to provide opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate
- to provide assistance to parents in such areas as parenting skills homework, communication with teachers, etc.
- to provide flexible conference times to accommodate working parents
- to inform parents of available community resources

With these goals in mind, Northside Elementary developed a Parental Involvement Plan that outlines ways in which parents are encouraged to share the responsibility for their child's education. The Parental Involvement Plan meets the requirements as set forth in Act 307 of 2007 and Act 397 of 2009.

Parent Involvement Committee

One requirement of the Parental Involvement Plan is to provide parents the opportunity to participate in all aspects of the Parent Involvement Plan. In the Rogers School District, parents are involved in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs both at the district and school building level. Northside provides all parents the opportunity to participate in Parent Surveys taken throughout the school year. These surveys allow the Northside Parent Involvement Committee to gain important insight into the issues that Northside Elementary parents would like to see addressed within the Parent Involvement Plan. Because Northside Elementary School understands that language issues may be a barrier to parent involvement, surveys are available in both English and Spanish.

Parents volunteer to serve on the Parent Involvement Committee. The committee is a representation of the school's population. Northside Elementary School understands that language issues may be a barrier to parent involvement; therefore, translators are available at meetings. Each fall, the Northside Parent Involvement Committee revisits the current plan and addresses any concerns and budget decisions. In the spring, the Northside Parent Involvement Committee revisits the current plan and any concerns that the survey data revealed. The Committee revises the Parent involvement Plan to meet the needs of the school. The revised Northside Parental Involvement Plan is then prepared for distribution in each child's Informational Packet in the fall of the following school year. The Northside Parent Involvement Plan is available throughout the year, at the time of registration, or at any time upon request. Because Northside Elementary School understands that language issues may be a barrier to parent involvement, the Northside Parent Involvement Plan is available in both English and Spanish.

Annual Title 1 Meeting

Another requirement of the Parental Involvement Plan is that each school hold an annual meeting for parents. The Northside Annual Title 1 Meeting, Open House, is held in the fall of each school year. The school principal and PTO President speak during the welcoming session. Teacher sessions allow teachers the opportunity to present parent information. The topics of the Title I Annual Meeting include, but are not limited to, the following:

(As required by Act 307 of 2007)

- what students will be learning (*Quarterly Expectations, Standards Based Report Card, Power Standards*)
- how students will be assessed both at the state and local level
- what parents should expect for their child's education
- ways parents can assist in their child's education

(As required by Act 397 of 2009)

- provide instruction on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment including but not limited to:
 - monthly parent newsletters with tips for parents
 - classroom newsletters
 - PTO newsletters
 - Math and Literacy Nights
 - Family Resource Center
 - Websites

(As required by Federal guidelines)

- Hold a school-wide Title I meeting at Northside to inform parents:
 - Title I information:
 - the purpose
 - an overview
 - Parent Rights
 - Parent/School Compact
 - Parent Involvement Committee
 - Use of Parent Involvement Funds
- School Improvement Status
 - Current Test Results
 - Annual Progress Status
- strategies for parents to monitor
 - a child's progress (Parent/Teacher Conferences)
 - standards

- academic assessments
 - Arkansas Department of Education Website
 - Rogers School District Website
 - Center for Effective Parenting
- materials and training provided as needed to assist parents to work with their children to improve academic achievement
- opportunities for parent involvement
 - homeroom parent
 - field trips
 - special projects
 - PTO
 - volunteer sign up

(As required by Northside)

- Class Procedures
 - homework
 - testing
 - discipline
- other pertinent information
- identify times during the day you are available for conferences or another form of two way communication

Parent-School Communication

Communication with parents is another requirement of the Parental Involvement Plan. The Northside Parent Involvement Committee and Northside Elementary Staff believe that in order for parent/teacher communication to be beneficial it should be open, two-way, and to the extent possible, in a language and format that the parent can understand. It is believed that only through effective communication can each child's success be assured. Parents are encouraged to call the school to speak with their child's teacher should they have any questions or concerns. Parents are also welcome to set up a time for a conference at which teachers can give their undivided attention to the parent's concerns and questions. Phone and e-mail contact information is located at the back of the Parental Involvement Plan.

Parent/Teacher Conferences are offered twice during each school year. These conferences are important times for teacher and parents to share the responsibility to make decisions concerning each child's education. During these conferences, teachers will share information concerning each child's progress towards meeting the state's high academic standards. Assessments to measure progress and the level at which proficiency is expected will also be shared during this meeting. Academic Improvement Plans will be addressed as needed. These conferences are offered at flexible times in order to accommodate as many parents as possible.

Other forms of communication available to Northside parents include but are not limited to:

- classroom Newsletters
- website
- Northside Parent Involvement Plan
- Northside Information Kit
- announcements
- marquee
- planners/Tuesday folders
- monthly parent newsletters
- Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter

Opportunities for Parent Involvement

Offering parents the opportunity to become a partner in their child's education is a required element of Parental Involvement Plans. Parents are encouraged to become involved in our school and their child's education by taking part in a variety of opportunities. Many activities are

planned throughout the school year to encourage parental involvement. These can be found on the school calendar, in monthly PTA newsletters, and special announcement fliers. Some of these activities include:

- Kindergarten Parent Orientation
- Quarterly Proud Panther Assemblies
- Parent Teacher Association activities
- Field trips
- Reading to and sharing career experiences in the classrooms
- Math, Literacy and/or STEM Nights

If a parent is unable to attend some of these school events, there are many ways in which they can still be actively involved in their child's education. Examples of this include:

- reading to your child
- teaching moral values
- monitoring what is watched on television
- helping with homework
- assisting teachers by helping with tasks that can be completed at home such as cutting or compiling

Parent Resources and Training

All parents are also encouraged to be aware of the many resources available to their help child. One such resource is the Internet. Parents might want to check out these valuable websites:

- Rogers Public School's Main Website: www.rogersschools.net
- Northside Elementary School's Main Website: www.rogersschools.net
- Arkansas Department of Education: www.arkansased.org
- Arkansas State Parent Information and Resource Center: www.parenting-ed.org
- Parent Teacher Association: www.pta.org

Another resource available to parents is the NORTHSIDE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER and Parent Center Pinterest Board(@NSParentCenter). We have suggestions for activities to assist parents in working with their child at home. We also have a selection of books and videos available to be checked out. Our parent facilitator, Tracy Yocham, will be available to help you in any way necessary. You are welcome to contact her at the school by calling 479.631.3650 or email at tracy.yocam@rpsar.net.

Parent Training Nights are another means by which parents can be active in their child's education. These trainings are offered by a variety of resources including:

- Northside Elementary School
 - Parent Nights with a focus on literacy/math/science
 - Open House
 - Orientations
- Rogers School District
 - REACH Department (Gifted Education)
 - English as a Second Language Department
 - Special Education Department
- Community Groups
 - Center for Effective Parenting
 - Local Support Groups
 - Northwest Arkansas Community College

Staff Professional Development

An important requirement of the Northside Parental Involvement Plan includes the component of continued staff development in the area of parent involvement. Annual training will be held with topics such as ways to communicate effectively with parents, methods by which parents can become more involved in the school, and how to bridge the home-school connection. It is the goal of the Northside Parent Involvement Committee for professional development to provide staff with the necessary skills needed to partner with all parents in order to assure each child's academic success.

The Northside School-Parent Compact

The staff of Northside Elementary School believes that high student academic achievement is a shared responsibility of our staff as well as parents of our students. In order to show that shared responsibility, Northside Elementary School in conjunction with the Northside Parent/Teacher Organization consisting of parents of students participating in the Title 1 program developed a School-Parent Compact that is reviewed annually. This Compact identifies the activities of the parents, entire school staff, and the students of Northside Elementary School to develop a partnership to help our students achieve the state's high academic standards. Because Northside Elementary School understands that language issues may be a barrier to parent involvement, the Northside Parent School Compact is available in both English and Spanish.

The Northside Elementary School-Parent Compact describes

- the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive, effective learning environment that supports students in our school to meet the state's academic achievement standards;
- how parents can be responsible for supporting their child's learning;
- the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an on-going basis through
 - parent-teacher conferences two times a year
 - student progress reports to parents
 - reasonable access to staff
 - opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class
 - observation of classroom activities

It is our goal to engage schools and parents as full-time partners in the education of young people in a meaningful and productive way. This year we will be implementing a Parent-School Compact so that each participant's role is clearly defined. The mutual responsibilities of parents and schools are to support children in attaining high standards.

Please take advantage of the opportunity to review the Parent-School Compact information. Your willingness to participate in this compact will determine the growth of your child's educational experience. Your signature, along with your child's signature, and date are required on this form. Please return this to your child's teacher.

Feel free to conference with your child's teacher or the school principal concerning the compact. We want to work with you in supporting your child's educational growth and success.



Rogers Public Schools

where all **belong**, all **learn**, and all **succeed**

500 West Walnut Street • Rogers, AR 72756 • www.rogersschools.net • (479) 636-3910

• Fax (479) 631-3504

Dr. Marlin Berry, Superintendent

Dear Parent:

In December 2015, former President Barack Obama signed the Every Student Succeeds Act into law. Parents continue to have the same rights as they did under “No Child Left Behind”.

Under ESSA, parents have a right to know the professional qualifications of their children’s teachers(s). This letter is to inform you of your right to ask for the following information about each of your child’s classroom teachers:

- Whether the state of Arkansas has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches (Note: We are also required to send a notice to parents affected if the teacher is not fully licensed, so if you haven’t received such notice, your child’s teacher(s) is/are fully licensed.)
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status through which state licensing criteria have been waived.
- The teacher’s college major, whether the teacher has any advanced degrees, and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
- If any time your student has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher(s) that is not highly qualified, then you will be notified by the school.

You also have the right to request information regarding the qualifications of the paraprofessional(s) assisting your child’s teacher(s). If your child is receiving Title I, Part A services from a paraprofessional, then our district or school is able to provide you with the following information:

1. Whether the paraprofessional has completed at least two years of study at an institution of higher education.
2. Whether the paraprofessional has completed an associate’s degree (or higher).
3. Whether the paraprofessional has met a rigorous standard of quality through our state’s certification procedure for determining the quality of paraprofessional staff.
4. Whether the paraprofessional has: (a) the knowledge of and ability to assist in instructing reading, writing, and mathematics or (b) the knowledge of and the ability to assist in learning activities, such as homework, reading readiness, writing, mathematics, and other support as appropriate.

If you would like to receive specific information about your child’s teacher or paraprofessional, please visit our office at 500 West Walnut Street to fill out a Parent Request Form. A response will be mailed to you within ten working days from the date of the request. Our office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Our district is fully committed to the success of your child. We appreciate your partnership in our efforts.

Sincerely,
Dr. Roger Hill
Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources