

GRACE HILL ELEMENTARY
PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN
2018-2019

Grace Hill Elementary School has developed jointly with our parents a written parental involvement plan that is designed to encourage parents to form a strong partnership with our school.

Program Components

Involve parents of the school, alumni, and community members

At Grace Hill we welcome visiting parents and encourage parents to have lunch with their students and volunteer in classrooms. We invite and encourage parents to participate in our Parent Teacher Organization and to attend all education, information and award events. We enjoy the visits of former students who come to see the school and teachers or administrators that they remember from their time at Grace Hill. We invite parents and community members to serve on our Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (ACSIP) committee, to become involved in PTO and to work with other Grace Hill groups. We have associations with community organizations that come to our school for service projects such as The PepsiCo Leadership Academy hosted by the Adelante group from PepsiCo. College students from Northwest Arkansas Community College work in our school to complete their class requirements. The Camp War Eagle and SOAR programs work with our students and parents by providing after-school and summer programs. A team of community leaders help influence and facilitate relationships between Grace Hill Elementary and businesses in the community supporting "The Leader in Me" Program that our School has adopted.

Address grade levels and individual needs of the school

Various meetings are held throughout the school year to address student needs at the grade level, for example the Back to School Meet and Greet, Parent Involvement Meetings, and training meetings to help inform parents of how they can support preparation for testing and provide academic support. At Kindergarten Registration in March, parents are given readiness information to better prepare their child for Kindergarten success. Parents may request a conference at any time of the year to meet with a teacher, administrator, or counselor to address individual student needs. Two times a year district wide parent/teacher conferences are scheduled. Interpretation/Translation services are provided for major school events, conferences and important school communication whenever possible. Annual meetings are held to offer

information regarding the Title I, Part A requirements and the rights of a parent to be involved in these programs. A Title I School/Parent Compact is provided for all parents to sign outlining the agreement between parents, students and the school to share responsibility for improving academic achievement, so that students can meet the State's high academic standards.

Implement a volunteer plan

Each teacher at our school requests parent volunteers according to individual needs. These needs/requests are provided in our Volunteer Resource Book in the school office. Parents are encouraged to participate in volunteer projects through our Parent Teacher Organization such as designing and building the school float for parades, helping with class parties, helping with teacher appreciation projects, helping with special treats for the students on field day and helping with service projects that improve our school grounds. When volunteers visit our building their efforts are recorded in our volunteer log. We recognize volunteer contributions throughout the school year during assemblies and a reception is held at the end of the year in their honor.

Planned activities and events

Activities and events are held throughout the school year to welcome, inform, educate, and entertain parents and community members including Orientation/Open House, Parent Involvement Meetings, Family Learning Nights and programs highlighting student accomplishments.

Ensure the availability of resources such as books and magazines

Books and other materials are available in the library and the Parent Center area of the main lobby. Free fliers are available in this area and may, also, be obtained from the counselor. These resources include information on topics of concern to parents in the areas of academic success, social concerns and parenting skills. Information on other programs that would benefit school readiness for younger siblings such as HIPPIY, Head Start and Pre-K are offered through the office. Opportunities for students and families provided through the community for example summer classes and camps are also displayed in this area

Recognize parents collectively on Rogers Public Schools website for attending parent conferences

Parent support of the schools through conference attendance is recognized on the RPS website at the district level.

Information/Family Kits

Provide information to parents

Information is provided to parents through various sources including district policy and procedures book, school and district websites, newspaper articles, weekly take home folders, school newsletters, and direct information from individual faculty or administrators.

Parent Center

The main lobby area of the school has been designated as the Parent Center at our school. This area houses information regarding resources for our parents. Parent resources are also available in the school library for check-out and information on specific topics can be requested and provided by the school counselor.

Policies

Policies and procedures are in place to welcome parents into our school while ensuring the safety of students. All visitors check into the office for a visitor tag before entering the building. All pick-up and dismissal procedures are supervised in order to help the parents as well as to ensure the safety of the children. Classroom visits by parents are welcomed when appropriate.

Facilitator

This is a position that is designated by the school principal and recognized in the school ACSIP plan. Our counselor, Lea Necessary, is our Parent Coordinator/Facilitator...her email address is Lea.Necessary@rpsar.net.

Professional Development

Administrators receive 2 hours of professional development in the area of Parent and Family Engagement each year and this is coordinated at the district level. The faculty receives 2 hours of professional development in the area of Parent and Family Engagement that is arranged by the building Principal on the schedule designated by the school district.

Funding

Funding to meet the requirements of act 603 is designated at the district level.