

Ida Burns Elementary School (Conway School District)
1201 Donaghey Ave Conway AR 72034 5014504825
School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

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.

District Conway

Grade Levels K-4

Building Facilitator LeAnna Floyd

Title I Status Schoolwide Targeted Assistance

Title I School Percent of free and reduced lunch 75%

Parent and Family Engagement Committee Members: Brad Cowger, Annie Ray, Denise Wahrer, Donna Wilchie, Ellen Smith, Kristy Green, Lelia Young, Nicole Loftis, Rosa Etter, Tiffany Block and Keisha Garland-Gibson (principal).

- 1. Describe/List how parents will be involved in the development of the school parent and family engagement plan and how parents will be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of parent and family engagement programs.***

Students and parents who are alumni of Ida Burns Elementary School will serve meet to provide advice and guidance for school improvement. The school will involve parents on school improvement planning committees. To support this process, the school will offer both school staff and parents training on how to contribute to this process in a meaningful way. The parent advisory committee will consist of the administration, PTO President and counselor. The meetings will be advertised so that other parents interested can attend and in order to provide for a diverse group for views. In the fall, the committee will meet and discuss the needs of parents and the school and address changing needs and possible solutions. The committee will meet in the spring to discuss the plan and begin plans for the following school year.

- 2. Describe/List when (provide the month/year or month/day/year) the school will hold the Annual Title I meeting to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation as well as the parents' rights to be involved. The Annual Title I meeting should not be used to ask for parent input, but provided as an opportunity to disseminate information and distribute copies of the revised parent and family engagement policy.)***

The school will conduct an Annual Title I Meeting for parents of the students who participate in the Title I, Part A Program. The Title I parent meeting will be held September 30, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will provide a description/explanation of school curriculum; information on forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress and information on proficiency level students are expected to meet. The agenda, the sign in sheet and the minutes for this meeting will be kept on file in the school's office.

3. Describe/List how the parent and family engagement policy will be distributed to parents and how the school is going to communicate with parents including information about how the school 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.

The policy will be provided on the school web page and available in print when requested by parents by October 1, 2019. An announcement will be made using parent link as well in the schools newsletter so that the parents/community will know of it's availability. An informational package will be posted online annually to include

- Parent and Family Engagement Plan
- Recommended roles/Title 1 Compact
- Events planned
- Ways for parents/families to be involved
- Methods of effective two-way meaningful communication system

The school will provide information regarding upcoming classroom and school events via classroom weekly/monthly newsletters and the school monthly newsletter. The school will offer parents a special workshop each year on the school's approach to school improvement. We will work with the district translator in order to have documents translated into needed languages in order to assist parents who do not understand the English language.

4. Describe/List the process the schools will follow to jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact.

School staff, parents, and students will update a school/parent/student compact. This compact will outline how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for Improving student academic achievement. The compact created jointly will discuss the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards. Meetings will be held at the end of the school year to improve the compact. The committee will make suggestions/corrections and approve for use the next school year. We encourage two way communication through: conferences, progress reports, volunteer opportunities and Classroom Dojo. Students will read and discuss their responsibilities in class with their teachers so they know what they need to do to improve their education. All stakeholders will sign the compact.

5. If the district receives more than \$500,000 in Title I allocation, then it must reserve 1 percent for parent and family engagement activities. A minimum of 90% of that 1% must go to the schools, with priority given to high-need schools. If the school is allocated a percentage of the 1 percent, describe/list how the school will share

with parents the budget for parent and family engagement activities and programs and how parents will be involved in providing input into how the funds are used

The school will involve parents in discussions about the use of the Title 1 Funds with guidance as to what the needs of the school are. Parents will learn of the budget in the fall advisory meeting and discuss the planning of parent nights so that the parents and school can work together to extend learning to the home.

6. Describe/List how the district and/or school will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports and resources to families.

The school works closely with organizations around the city to gain support for various students/family needs. Resources are available to families from counseling services, volunteer organizations, services such as United Way and others. The school works with the business to provide families access to technology, workshops on securing library cards for students, buddies paired with students from local colleges in order to provide needed mentoring as well as resources for parents who need assistance with parenting concerns. On October 30, 2019 the school has partnered with the Museum of Discovery to provide a STEAM night and looks forward to a spring parent night focused around math.

7. Describe/List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, online resources, Academic Parent-Teacher Team meetings, and any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to support parents in helping their student's academic success.

Two parent teacher conference nights will be held this school year in order for parents and teachers to meet and discuss students strengths and academic needs. Mid nine weeks there will be interim reports sent home to parents in order to demonstrate student strengths and needs in school. With the interims, there will be an opportunity for teachers to send ideas home so that parents can help their students with academic needs.

The school will host parent nights this year to include a Mad Scientist Night for math and science exploration as well as a separate night for literacy focus. We also hold two parent-teacher conference nights within the school year so that parents can meet face to face with teachers in order to continue dialogue about student success and needs academically. In order to engage families in the importance of spending time together, we will also host an annual Game Night parent night in which the teachers and families gather for an evening of food and games. This night is geared toward just sharing in conversation around board games.

In order to assist parents with concerns aside from academic needs, we will provide an area with books, brochures, magazines, and online resources that promote responsible parenting will be available at all times for parents to check out. These materials will be located in the library media center. The materials will also be available for check out at

planned parent events. The parental involvement coordinator will be responsible for advertising the materials and making them available.

8. Describe/List activities such as workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, online resources, and Academic Parent-Teacher Team meetings that will be used with school staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners. Describe/List methods of parents' assistance for building staff capacity. Describe/List actions the school will take to provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities.

In order to continue to build the capacity of school staff in relation to creating and maintaining a joint partnership in educating their children, we have a few things in place. We began this year with a book study that will continue throughout the next year based on the study of the impact of poverty on the brain and learning. The two texts titled *Teaching Students with Poverty in Mind* and *Engaging Students with Poverty in Mind* both are research strong books that discuss the stressors in the lives of students in a high poverty environment as well as tips for teachers to bridge the connection to home and learning needs of students in chronic stressor situations. The staff have the opportunity to attend a conference about teaching students of poverty and return to share the learning with other team members. The school will support the above activities by providing materials needed for easy implementation.

The teachers will get support throughout the year on how to reach out and communicate with parents. It is a goal of ours to assure that we treat parents as partners.