

AR  
Gosnell School District  
600 N. State Highway 181  
Gosnell AR 72315  
870-532-4000

### District Parent and Family Engagement Plan

<b>District Name:</b>	Gosnell School District
<b>Coordinator Name:</b>	Ashley Bowdler
<b>Plan Review/Revision Date:</b>	9/27/2019
<b>District Level Reviewer, Title</b>	Anita McKinney, District Curriculum Coordinator

**Committee Members, Role:**

*(Select "Repeat" to open more entry fields to add additional team members)*

First Name	Last Name	Position
Heidi	Moore	Parent
Allison	Hinson	Parent
Kristen	Parker	Parent/Alumni
Laura	Weiss	Teacher/Parent/Alumni
Ricky	Mask	Parent
Ashley	McGuirt	Parent

**Committee Members, Role:**

*(Select "Repeat" to open more entry fields to add additional team members)*

First Name	Last Name	Position
Ryan	Perkins	Parent
Renita	Sprouse	Parent
Jennifer	Orton	Parent
Tina	Godsey	Assistant Principal/Alumni
Tiffany	Kennemore	Principal/Parent
Elizabeth	Bryce	Director of Special Services/Title I Coordinator/Alumni

**Committee Members, Role:**

*(Select "Repeat" to open more entry fields to add additional team members)*

First Name	Last Name	Position
April	White	District Parent Coordinator
Ashley	Bowdler	Parental Involvement Facilitator
Steven	Milligan	Principal/Parent
Keelen	Newsom	Assistant Principal/Parent

### 1: Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives

*(Describe/List the District expectations and objectives for parent and family engagement. Describe/List how parents will be involved in the development of the district parent and family engagement policy. 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. Describe/List how the District will submit to the State comments from parents who deem the LEA Plan unsatisfactory.)*

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

- The Gosnell School District will involve parents in the development of its parent and family engagement plan by allowing parents to review the plan and make changes as appropriate before it is sent to the state. This engagement plan will be available on the school district website for parents and stakeholders to access at any time. Hard copies will be available in the Parent Center, and copies are made available for individuals whose home language is not English or who have a disability.
- Parents in the Gosnell School District are given the opportunity to collaborate with the district parent coordinator and parent and family engagement facilitator on how funds are reserved and allotted for family engagement activities through the parent and family engagement committee meetings.
- The student handbook includes a parent-friendly summary of the parent and family engagement plan and parents must sign and return to acknowledge that they received a copy.
- Develop a district parent and family engagement committee to create a parent and family engagement policy and implement parent and family engagement activities as well as disseminate information to the community to promote parent and family engagement in the schools.
- Parents and other stakeholders are invited to participate in the parent and family engagement committee and are encouraged to voice their opinions and concerns to affect change in the schools.

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**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. 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.)*

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

- The Gosnell School District will develop and use a school-parent compact guided by the Title I committee. The only Title I school in the district develops its own parent and family engagement policy with the help of parents, teachers and administrators on the parent and family engagement committee. Meeting times are held in the evenings so to accommodate the members. Parent information packets are also distributed. The parent compact is developed at these meetings and is also implemented at the elementary building. The school also provides training for HAC (Home Access Center) and other parenting information packets as requested. The school notifies parents of the eSchoolPlus Family app available on smartphones and other devices for parents/guardians to access HAC (Home Access Center) to check their child's grades and attendance.
- The Gosnell School District will provide necessary support to its school as they jointly develop school level parent and family engagement plans. The district will implement effective parent and family engagement activities to increase parent and family engagement with the schools. After each event, the event will be assessed for its effectiveness, and we will discuss what can be done to improve it in the future, based on our observations and comments from and communication with parents and families present.
- The Gosnell School District will design professional development opportunities for the staff every four years to include no less than two (2) hours of professional development which are designed to enhance teacher

understanding of effective parent/guardian engagement strategies and to remind teachers of the importance of the role of parents in the school system. The two (2) hours may be included in the sixty hours of professional development.

- The Gosnell School District will provide training for volunteers to allow them to build their capacity to serve the school district and our students.
- The student handbook includes a parent-friendly summary of the parent and family engagement plan and parents must sign and return to acknowledge that they received a copy.
- The district will ensure, to the extent possible, that information is sent home in a language and format parents and families can understand.

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### **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.)*

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

- Explain annually to parents and the community the State's content and achievement standards, State and local student assessments and how the school's curriculum is aligned with the assessments and how parents can work with the school to improve their child's academic achievement.
- Provide parents with the materials and training they need to help their child improve academic achievement. Send home "Nutrition Nuggets" newsletter each month. Publish "Teen Food and Fitness" and "High School Years" newsletters on the secondary school website each month for parents. We will use the district automated call/text/email system to email all of the secondary parents a copy of these publications (Teen Food and Fitness and High School Years). The school may use the parent resource center or other community based organizations to foster parent and family engagement and provide literacy and technology training to parents. They are also informed of the parent and family engagement committee and their right to be involved.
- Schedule regular "Parent/Guardian Make the Difference Evenings" in order that parents/guardians may be given an overview of:
  - 1) what students will be learning
  - 2) how students will be assisted
  - 3) what parents/guardians should expect concerning their children's education
  - 4) how parents/guardians can assist and make a difference in the education of their children.
- Sponsor seminars to inform parents/guardians of high school students of how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selections, career planning, and preparations for post-secondary opportunities.
- Engage in other activities determined by the school to be designed to welcome parents/guardians in the school. Provide training for parents to use the Home Access Center (HAC) to allow them to monitor their child's attendance and achievement records. Parents will be notified of the Home Access Center (HAC) information through Parent/teacher conferences and the school district website. Parents will also be notified of the eSchoolPlus Family app available on smartphones and other devices for parents/guardians to access HAC (Home Access Center) to check their child's grades and attendance.

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### **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.*

*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.)*

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

- Funds are allocated as deemed necessary for all parent and family engagement activities.
- Parents are surveyed annually in the spring on the effectiveness of the schools. The survey also asks parents to identify any barriers and give feedback on the needs of the schools. The survey will be conducted and results will be calculated by Ashley Bowdler, District Parent and Family Engagement Facilitator (870-532-4010). The findings from these annual surveys are used to make recommendations to each participating school for parent and family engagement policy revision. The evaluation process involves the parent and family engagement facilitator and coordinator so they can take the recommendations to each of their participating schools.
- The district utilizes the data from the evaluation of the surveys to share with committees and information is shared with the staff in a staff meeting. Results from the surveys are also shared with parents at parent information nights.
- In the spring of every school year—the Parent and Family Engagement Committee, in conjunction with the Gosnell School District, shall review, update, and approve its district and school parent and family engagement plans and will file a copy of the plan with the Department of Education by August 1.

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**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.)*

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

- The Gosnell School District will coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs throughout the school year. This will look different at each school since the needs are different because of varying age levels. Schools will collaborate with local community organizations and businesses to provide resources for families.
- Gosnell School District has some high school students with disabilities that participate in Opportunity for Work-based Learning (OWL) as part of their transition program to prepare them for postsecondary schools and careers. This federal grant program works closely with the state program, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS), as a work based learning program to facilitate a collaborative effort between local school districts. Arkansas Rehabilitation Services and Arkansas Transition Services ensure students with disabilities are afforded the opportunity to gain work readiness training skills and work experiences through a transition class prior to exiting the secondary setting.

The work based learning program (WBLP) is an educational approach and instructional methodology that utilizes the workplace or real work setting to provide students the knowledge and skills that will connect school experiences to real-life work activities and future career opportunities prior to exiting the secondary setting. By partnering we can ensure students have the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to obtain and maintain employment after graduating the secondary setting; thus improving post school outcomes and successful transition from high school to post-secondary life.

The OWL program is designed to enhance transition programming within IDEA mandates while meeting the requirements of the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) through a coordinated set of activities. The OWL program is a partnership between school districts and ARS, in collaboration with Arkansas Transition Services to create opportunities for students to participate in work-based learning by providing exposure to the world of work through various experiences. Partnering with ARS will provide the opportunity for high school students enrolled in our school's transition class/classes to obtain work experience prior to exiting the secondary setting.

- Through a partnership with ABC (Arkansas Better Chance), which is run by the co-op, Gosnell Elementary houses three Pre-K classrooms, which accepts three and four year olds. The Pre-K has parent and family

engagement activities each month, and all parents are invited to attend. The Pre-K parents and guardians are also invited to conference with the Pre-K teachers on the district-scheduled Parent/Teacher Conference nights in October and March. The Pre-K had an Open House on August 8, 2019, which was coordinated to be the same night as the district-wide Open House for the elementary and secondary schools. In the spring, we coordinate with ABC and give the Pre-K classes a tour of the kindergarten and elementary buildings. The students meet all the Kindergarten teachers, special class teachers (Art, Music, PE, Library, etc.), and the principals. A meeting is held with the Pre-K parents to discuss the transition from Preschool to Kindergarten. The parents are given Kindergarten readiness information so they can work with their child at home. The Pre-K classes are invited to elementary school programs. The Pre-K families are invited to all elementary school Parent and Family Engagement activities, such as the Spring Parent and Family Engagement Meeting, Art Shows, Book Fairs, Music Programs, Open House, and Parent Teacher Conferences.

- Gosnell Elementary School collaborates with the fire and police departments to promote safety in and outside of the home and promote careers in public service.
- Gosnell High School has partnered with the state and Arkansas Northeastern College to provide a full-time career coach in its school. The Career Coach program is founded upon the objective to provide all high school students with career guidance and pathways to extending their education beyond high school.
- The Gosnell School District works with local counseling agencies at each of its schools to provide necessary supports to students regularly and also to provide extra supports in the event of a disaster such as student death or loss of a family member.
- Our district has a Parent Center, which is a parent resource center, open daily for parents and stakeholders. Information that promotes and supports responsible parenting is available to parents and families.

**(See complete [Arkansas Guide for District Parent and Family Engagement Plan](#) for references)**

**ADE Reviewer Responses:**

Sections	Changes Required	Federal Compliance	State Compliance	Comments	Date of Feedback
Section 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Section 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Section 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Section 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Section 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		