

School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

School Name:

Oliver Springs Elementary School

Facilitator Name:

Emily Ryan

Plan Review/Revision Date:

July 6, 2023

District Level Reviewer, Title:

Karen Allen, Assistant Superintendent

District Level Approval Date:

August 2023

Committee Members, Role:

Emily Ryan, Teacher/Parent Involvement Facilitator

Jennifer Perry, Teacher/Parent

Krista Brown, Teacher/Parent

Rebecca Orellana, Staff/Parent

Rexanne Russell, Staff

Crystal Pulliam, Paraprofessional

Shelly King, Paraprofessional

Lindsey Bonilla, Parent and PTA

Cara Saffell, Parent

1: Jointly Developed

The Oliver Springs Elementary School Parent Involvement Committee, which includes the school Parent Involvement Facilitator, teachers, paraprofessionals, and parents of students will meet to analyze data from surveys and provide input towards the development of a parent and family engagement plan. The committee will address any concerns or questions from parents.

The dates of Parent Involvement meetings are: September 5th. There will be monthly scheduled meetings throughout the school year. If meetings are unable to be held on site, Zoom meetings or telephone conferences will be held to discuss and make decisions on certain topics.

Parents can request additional meetings other than the scheduled meetings, if necessary. If the Title I School wide Plan is not satisfactory to parents, comments will be submitted to Joyce Haver, District Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator.

2: Annual Title I Meeting

The Annual Title I Meeting will be presented by school principal, Dr. Summer Cox, virtually. This meeting will be held August 10, 2023. Dr. Cox will inform parents of our school's participation in Title I, as well as the requirements. A PowerPoint presentation will be shown that includes parents' rights and how our Title I funds will be allocated. A copy of this presentation will be available on the school website for parents who were unable to attend. If a meeting is not able to be held on site, the presentation link will be sent to parents through various platforms. (Facebook, email, school website, etc.)

3: Communications

The Oliver Springs Elementary School Parent Involvement Facilitator, Emily Ryan (emily.ryan@vbsd.us), will distribute the Parent and Family Engagement Plan through PeachJar, a newsletter distribution software, on or before August 1st, 2023. Parents will also receive a copy of the plan during Parent Teacher Conferences on October 17th and 19th, 2023. At this time, parents will sign to verify that they have received a copy of the school and district family engagement plans.

The Oliver Springs Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Plan and a parent-friendly version of the plan will be available to families on our school website on or before August 1st, 2023. In addition, a Parent Information Packet and our Title I School Compact will be available on the school website.

A parent-friendly version of the Parent and Family Engagement Plan will be provided to parents in a format and language that is easily understood. The parent-friendly version will outline events and activities specific to Oliver Springs Elementary School, to encourage parents and families to be involved in their student's learning and school community through the following roles and activities:

August 10, 2023 Open House
August 10, 2023 Parent Involvement Meeting, Title I Meeting
September 2023 Parent Night
September 25-29, 2023 Fall Book Fair
October 19, 2023 Report Cards
October 17/19, 2023 Parent/Teacher Conferences
January 10, 2024 Report Cards
March 14, 2024 Report Cards
March 12/14, 2024 Parent/Teacher Conferences
May 30, 2024 Report Cards

Volunteer Surveys will be collected through classroom teachers and kept on file with the Parent Involvement Facilitator, Emily Ryan.

School activities and news are available through our school website, <http://www.vbsd.us/schools/oliver-springs-elementary-school>.

Classroom teachers throughout our school use various applications, such as Remind 101 and Class Dojo, to encourage communication with parents and families. Students will be given folders and agendas to transport to and from school to communicate important events and activities.

Teachers will utilize various online platforms such as Google Classroom to communicate with students and families in the event that we should switch to remote learning. We will also participate in blended learning while we are on site, to ensure that students are prepared for online learning at home if necessary. Teachers will be available to facilitate small groups through virtual technology, using platforms such as Google Classroom, Google Meet, and Zoom.

4: School-Parent Compact

We believe that a partnership must exist between our parents and our school. The committee worked together to develop a School-Parent Compact to share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve Arkansas's high standards.

Parent Volunteer opportunities and volunteer training were held during this meeting as well. Volunteer surveys will be collected and kept on file with the Parent Involvement Facilitator.

Parents are also encouraged to become involved at Oliver Springs Elementary School through PTA membership.

5: Reservation of Funds

At Oliver Springs Elementary School, we provide a variety of opportunities for parents to be involved in our school community. We will provide materials that can be used at home to reinforce school instruction at home to ensure their child's academic success. The district will reserve a minimum of 1% of the Title I, Part A allocation for parental involvement. It is our desire for parents to have a role in determining the plan for spending our Parent and Family Engagement Title I funds (\$1,200.00). Plans were made to spend the funds on communication folders for each classroom (\$893) as well as supplies for Parent Night (\$200). Prizes for the Parent Involvement Bingo Card will also be purchased (\$107). This budget will be presented to parents at a parent meeting.

6: Coordination of Services

Oliver Springs Elementary school will coordinate with and utilize a variety of community resources and services.

SWAT will organize two fundraisers to collect food items for the IMPACT program as well as our snack pack program to provide food to those in need at our school and within our school district.

Our School Resource Officer will present various times to each grade level about important topics such as Cyber-Bullying.

The Van Buren Fire Department will bring the Smokehouse to discuss fire safety with 1st-3rd grade students and allow them to practice the proper procedures for evacuating a building during a fire. Students are then encouraged to share this important information with their families.

Many local businesses, such as Taco Bell, Braums and Casey's, have partnered with Oliver Springs Elementary School to encourage students to read by providing coupons and other incentives.

7: Building Capacity of Parents

The school will provide a list of volunteer opportunities and solicit ideas for other types of volunteer efforts during orientation of parents. Teachers will explain the requirements to parents and encourage them to become involved in the school. Brief training sessions will provide parents and community members with the information they need to participate as school volunteers in order to put them at ease and make the experience pleasant and successful.

A Volunteer Handbook will be available in the Parent Center in the Library. It will also be available electronically. This handbook will be updated by Emily Ryan, Teacher/Parent Involvement Facilitator.

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 school will ask parents to serve on curricular and instructional review 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 school will hold regular meetings to explain what students will be learning, how students will be assessed, what parents should expect for their child's education, and how a parent can assist and make a difference in his or her child's education.

The school will provide instruction to parents on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including role play and demonstration by trained volunteers, the use of and access to Department of Education website [<https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/>] tools for parents, assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation, and engage in other activities determined by the school to help a parent assist in his or her child's learning.

8: Building Capacity of School Staff

The school will provide two (2) hours for teachers and three (3) hours for administrators, professional development in addition to the minimum number of hours of professional development required by the State designed to enhance understanding of effective parent involvement strategies and the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.

Through on-going professional development and with the assistance of parents, Oliver Springs teachers, specialized instructional staff, principals and other support personnel will be trained in the following areas:

- That parents play an integral role in assisting student learning
- In the value and utility of contributions of parents
- In how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners
- To implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between home and school
- To welcome parents into the school and seek parental support and assistance
- To provide information in a format, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand
- To respond to parent requests for parent and family engagement activities
- To recognize that a parent is a full partner by including in the school handbook the school's process for resolving parent concerns

9: Building Capacity For Possible Remote Learning

If the school campus is forced to close, OSES has established a plan to continue student learning and parent involvement. Teachers will begin the year implementing a blended learning format. This will allow students to become familiar and comfortable using specific online programs if we must transition to virtual learning. The school will issue individual Chromebooks/iPads to each student that will be transported to and from school. Mobile hotspots will also be available to students, if needed. Blended learning will be heavily incorporated at the beginning of the school to make the transition to off-site learning as smooth as possible.

Specific learning platforms will be implemented in the lower and upper elementary classrooms (Seesaw and Google Classroom). Upper Elementary will also utilize Lincoln Learning as an online learning program that can be accessed at school and at home. Students will be provided with small group instruction through Zoom conferencing.

Parents and school staff will continue to communicate through various online platforms (Peachjar, Classtag, Remind, Class Dojo, Facebook, and Twitter). Teachers will use these online platforms to regularly check in with parents. They will also be used to send updates on their child's academic progress and school activities.

In the event of campus closing, future school activities will be held virtually or they will be postponed to a more appropriate time and date. Parents, teachers, and students will be notified of these changes and adjustments through the previously stated online programs.