

The administration and staff at Dardanelle Middle School understand and value the importance of involving parents in their child's education. This is vital for the child to reach his or her full potential. It is our desire to form a partnership with parents in order to improve the emotional, academic, and social growth of all of our students. Through this plan, we hope to encourage parental involvement and give parents the tools/resources necessary to guide their children to become life-long learners and productive citizens.

Our Parental Involvement Plan is in compliance with the legal requirements of Arkansas Act 307 of 2007 (6-15-1702), Act 397 (6-15-1702) (b), and the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (PL 107-110). The plan is also included in Dardanelle Middle School's (D.M.S.) Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (ACSIP) promoting parent involvement. These documents represent a partnership development with parents, students and school staff.

Program Components:

The following components make up Dardanelle Middle School's Parental Involvement Plan.

- I. The goal of the administration is to involve the parents, the alumni and community members in our school.**
 - A. The Parental Involvement Team has been developed that will help strengthen our school programs and practices, as well as student learning and development. The team will meet once a semester in the parent conference center.
 - B. By asking parents, alumni, community members as well as staff members to serve on our:
 1. Parental Involvement Committee
 2. Advisory Committee
 3. ASCIP Committee

- II. We shall seek parental support and assistance by:**
 - A. Addressing expectations for grade levels and individual needs.
 1. The counselor will inform parents of the state's expectations regarding the ACT Aspire at Open House and at the first Parent Teacher Conference night in October.

II. We shall seek parental support and assistance by: (continued)

2. Implementing a volunteer plan by sending home a volunteer survey. The survey will give information about:
 - Availability of volunteers
 - Their interests
 - Contact information
- B. Sharing expectations for each grade level and individual needs of the students through different venues, i.e., Open House, Dardanelle Middle School Procedural Manual/Agenda and staff/parent communication throughout the year.

III. Planned activities and events:

- A. Dardanelle Middle School has the following activities and events planned to involve parents throughout the year:
 1. Open House and Orientation on August 8, 2017 for parents and students of 6th graders. They will be provided:
 - A class schedule
 - Student Agenda & Handbook
 - Family Kit
 - Supply List
 - Curriculum Information
 - Student Assessment Information
 2. Parent Teacher Conferences on October 24 and February 8 where parents will be able to meet with their child's teacher(s) to discuss their child's progress and to resolve any concerns.
 3. At the "Literacy Day" on November 10, the parents will be provided an opportunity to attend one or more of the following trainings as well as work with students on various literacy topics:
 - Helping Your Child Learn How to Study
 - Use of creative thinking, critical thinking, and information skills to investigate, draw conclusions about, and connect content to real world and authentic problems and issues.
 - Learning how to deal with the "Middle Years"
 - Homework: How to Motivate Your Child

IV. Planned activities and events: (continued)

4. A Math Night will be held in the spring semester to help parents learn fun and creative ways to help their students engage in math.
5. A monthly newsletter will be mailed to parents containing tips for parents of adolescents.
6. A Parent Resource Center will be enhanced that will address the following areas:
 - Homework help
 - Motivational Strategies
 - Parenting and School Partnership
 - Current school programs and events
 - PARCC Assessment information

V. Community Resources

- A. Including community members on the Parental Involvement Committee and ask them to contribute their time, expertise and resources in the planning and execution of the parental involvement events at our school.
- B. To assist in advertising/promoting upcoming events

VI. Parent Facilitator

- A. Kim Walter, DMS Counselor has been designated to serve as parent facilitator for our school.
- B. As parent facilitator she will perform the following duties:
 - Organize meaningful training for staff and parents
 - Promote and encourage a welcoming atmosphere to foster parental involvement in the school
 - Undertake efforts to ensure that parental participation is recognized as an asset in our school
 - Provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment.

VII. Professional Development

- A. A minimum of two hours of professional development designed to enhance understanding of effective parental involvement strategies will be provided for teachers.
- B. A minimum of three hours of professional development opportunities will be provided for administrators to enhance the understanding of effective parent involvement strategies and the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.
- C. Our principal will provide training for our staff concerning his expectations of parent involvement in the educational process. He will also discuss the importance of maintaining a climate conducive to parental participation.
- D. Our parent facilitator will organize trainings designed to enhance the understanding of effective parental involvement strategies.

VIII. Our parents will be welcomed in our school by:

- A. DMS staff continuing to eliminate any policy or procedures that would discourage a parent from visiting the school
- B. DMS staff providing an atmosphere where parents are able to express their views and to assist in problem solving.

IX. Parents as Partners

- A. To encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect his or her child and family, our school shall:
 - 1. Include parents on the following committees at our school:
 - ACSIP
 - Alumni Advisory
 - Parental Involvement
 - 2. Continue to promote communication between home and school that promotes students' best interest:
 - The staff will utilize a variety of different ways to communicate with our parents i.e. Agenda, phone calls, texting, home visits, emails, letters, newsletters, webpage and the messenger system.
 - Parents will be involved in developing their child's AIP, IEP and 504 Plan, if necessary

- Complete parent surveys at Open House and Parent Teacher Conferences so parents can have a voice and as a school we can find different ways to help parents help their children

IX. Parents as Partners (continued)

- Parents will be able to access student grades at any time through the use of eSchool.
 - Progress reports will be sent home at the end of each 5 week period.
 - Report cards will be sent home at the end of each 9 week period.
 - Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on October 24, and February 8.
- B. Follow the school's process for resolving parental concerns located on page 17 of the DMS Procedural Manual.

X. Evaluation

- A. The school will support the development, implementation and regular evaluation of the program. The parent involvement committee will take into consideration the following documents to evaluate the effectiveness of the plan:
1. Input gathered at the various committee meetings
 2. Evaluations filled out by participants at the Parental Involvement Meetings, parental activities, events and trainings
 3. Insight gained from surveys given to our parents, community members and staff.
- B. The Parental Involvement Committee will review and update the Dardanelle Middle School Parental Involvement Plan.