

AR
WALNUT RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
508 EAST FREE STREET
WALNUT RIDGE AR 72476
870-886-6623

School Parent Involvement Policy

**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.**

Hint

District
Lawrence County School District

School Improvement Status
Needs Improvement

Grade Levels
7-12

Parent Involvement Coordinator
Lindsey Romine

Are you Title I Schoolwide?
 Yes
 No
 N/A

Percent of free and reduced lunch
58.5%

Parent Involvement Committee Members
(Select "Repeat" to open more entry fields to add additional team members)

Enter committee members

First Name
Dyan

Last Name
Heard

Position
Parent Involvement Facilitator

Enter committee members

First Name
Leslie

Last Name
Burgin

Position
WRHS Parent

Enter committee members

First Name
Debbie

Last Name
Findley

Position
WRHS Counselor

Enter committee members

First Name

Lindsey

Last Name

Romine

Position

Parent Center Coordinator

Enter committee members

First Name

Derek

Last Name

Bramlett

Position

Assistant Principal

Enter committee members

First Name

Jacob

Last Name

Kersey

Position

Principal

1. List various communication strategies used in your school to provide additional information to parents and to increase parental involvement in supporting classroom instruction.

- The school will distribute a monthly newsletter to parents that is developed with participation of the principal, staff, and parent volunteers. It includes school news, a calendar of school activities, and parenting tips related to school achievement such as homework tips, organizational skills, and study skills.
 - The school will create a Web site to house classroom Web sites for each teacher. Homework assignments and pertinent classroom information will be available on classroom Web sites. Also, parents can access their child's grades using a PIN number they received at the beginning of the school year. Parents may use e-mail to communicate with members of the school staff.
 - Teachers will contact parents twice yearly (October 16, 2015 and March 17, 2016) on an individual basis to communicate about their child's progress.
 - The school will provide to parents reports/report cards every nine weeks with information regarding their child's academic progress and upcoming classroom and school events.
-

2. List the proposed parent meeting, conferences and activities regularly throughout this year and the dates providing flexible meeting times that you have planned to increase parental involvement and build staff and parent capacity to engage in these types of efforts. (Must include the 2 state mandated parent/teacher conferences each year.)

- Teachers will hold conferences individually with parents of children in their classrooms. Parents will be given a summary of the student's test scores and an explanation of the interventions teachers are using to assist the child in reaching achievement goals. Parents will be asked to engage in discussion of how they can support these efforts. Parents will also be given suggestions of homework and grading procedures. **Fall Conference - October 16, 2015, Spring Conference - March 17, 2016.**
 - The school will encourage parents in the following types of roles and activities to increase their involvement and support for student learning:
 - Awards day presentation
 - Field day volunteers
 - Orientation presentations
 - Open House
 - Parent-school organization
 - Red Ribbon week
 - Various committees
-

3. How will your school provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities (must include state mandated parent training)?

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.

The school will work with Walnut Ridge Elementary School to help provide a smooth transition from one school to the next by raising parent awareness of procedures and related activities. The school will host special orientation programs for parents and students to help with the transition. Parents will have the opportunity to meet the new teachers at the beginning of the school year.

- STATE REQUIREMENT – Provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation: role play and demonstration by trained volunteer, the use of and access to the Department of Education website tools for parents, assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation and other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Department of Education.
- STATE REQUIREMENT (Staff Development) The State Board of Education's Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts shall require no fewer than two (2) hours of professional development for teachers designed to enhance the understand of effective parental involvement strategies. No fewer than three (3) hours of professional development for administrators 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.

4. How will your school work with parents to create a School-Parent-Compact?

School staff, parents, and students will develop a school-parent-student compact. This compact will outline how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards. All stakeholders will sign the compact.

5. How will your school provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of the school wide school improvement plan, and the Annual Title I Meeting to engage them in the decision-making processes regarding the school's Title I, Part A Program?

- The school will involve parents on school 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 training on how to contribute to this process in a meaningful way.
- The school will engage parents in decision about parental involvement.
- STATE REQUIREMENT – To take advantage of community resources, the school will recruit alumni from the school to create an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement.
- STATE REQUIREMENT - The school shall enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Association or organization that will foster parental and community involvement within the school.

6. How will your school provide resources for parents?

- Parents may check out materials, use the computer to check grades, and visit educational Web sites.
- STATE REQUIREMENT - The school will distribute Informational packets each year that include a copy of the school's parental involvement plan, survey for volunteer interests, recommended roles for parents/ teachers/students and school, suggestions of ways parents can become involved in their child's education, parental involvement activities planned for the current school year and information about the system that will be used to allow parents and teachers to communicate (notes, phone calls, e-mail...).
- STATE REQUIREMENT - To promote and support responsible parenting, the school shall, as funds are available: Purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials regarding responsible parenting through the school library, advertise the current selection, and give parents the opportunity to borrow the materials for review.
- Lindsey Romine is the coordinator of our Parent Center
- STATE REQUIREMENT – Include in the school's policy handbook the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions.
- STATE REQUIREMENT – Dyan Heard has been designated to serve as the parent facilitator.

7. How will your school engage parents in the evaluation of your parental involvement efforts?

The school will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the Title I, Part A Program's parental involvement efforts through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by teachers, parents and school staff. The Parent Involvement committee, made up of teachers, parents and school staff, will determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement plan and make changes if warranted. While collecting evidence about satisfaction with the program and the school's efforts to increase parental involvement will be a part of the evaluation, the survey will also collect specific information on the (1) growth in number of parents participating in workshops and meetings; (2) specific needs of parents; (3) effectiveness of specific strategies; and (4) engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth.

8. How will your school use the parent interest surveys to select, plan and implement parental involvement activities that will be offered throughout the year?

- The school will ask parents to fill out a parent interest survey during each school year to get information from parents concerning the activities they feel will be most beneficial in the efforts to support their child academically.
- The school will use the results of the parent interest survey to plan the parental involvement activities for the year.
- The school will evaluate the activities that were suggested by the parents at the end of the year as part of the annual parental involvement plan evaluation.
- STATE REQUIREMENT – Sponsor seminars to inform the parents of high school students about how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selection, career planning, and preparation for postsecondary opportunities.

9. When will your school plan the Annual Title I Meeting that must be conducted separately? (It CANNOT be held

in conjunction with any other meetings or activities.)

NA - WRHS is not a Title I School

****After completion of this form, the school should print and submit to district for review and approval. Once approved, the school is required to post their School Parent Plan on their website.***