

SPRINGHILL ELEMENTARY



Family Community
Engagement Plan

Springhill Elementary School Family Community Engagement Plan

The mission of Springhill Elementary school creates leaders who take responsibility for their own academic and behavioral success..

The following outline is in compliance with the legal requirements of Arkansas Act 603 of 2003 (6-15-1602- Parent Involvement Plan) and the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (PL 107-110). The document represents joint development with parents, students and school staff. Springhill Elementary School's Parental Involvement Plan may include, but is not limited to, the following:

Parenting

Involve parents of students at all grade levels in a variety of roles – such as volunteers, resource people, judges in writing projects, and various other activities.

Examples at Springhill Elementary include:

1. Room-mothers: volunteers for teachers during activities, parties, and special events
2. Parent Volunteers: helps with making copies for teachers, helping gather resources, volunteering in the classrooms, etc.
3. Watch Dog Dads: An invitation is extended to families (dads, grandfathers, etc) members to volunteer their time at the school helping in the classrooms, lunchroom, recess, before school arrival and after school dismissal etc.
4. Community members to support the Food Backpack for Kids Program, and other activities at our school.
5. Allow and support the development of a school PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization).

Communicating

Maintain regular, two-way communication. All elementary teachers will meet with parents or guardians of each student at least once a semester through parent/teacher conferences, telephone conferences, or a home visit. Teachers will communicate more frequently if additional support is needed.

Other examples of communication between the school and parents will include the following:

*Provide informational packets with a variety of resources according to grade level. These packets will include items such as school calendars, schedules of special events, the interim testing schedule, school handbooks, supply lists, learning expectations, etc. These packets will

be given to parents at registration, open houses, or during conference times.

*The district's website, www.bryantschools.org, and the Bryant Public Schools App will be made available to parents and guardians to provide information concerning the schools and the schools' activities.

*Send home classroom newsletters on a regular basis.

*Utilize "HAC," an email/text message system, to help keep parents and guardians notified of up-to-date announcements, monitor their child's academic progress and attendance, weather closings, school news, and events.

Blackboard Connect is utilized once per week to communicate upcoming events, opportunities to get involved and other items of interest

The Remind application is used to keep faculty, staff and parents up to date on school and classroom news.

Promoting and supporting responsible parenting

Springhill Elementary School will:

*Recognize parental involvement through local media including feature articles and/or pictures.

*Provide parenting books, magazines and other informative material regarding responsible parenting through the counselor's office and school library, and give parents an opportunity to borrow the materials to review.

*Supply parents with parenting books, upon request, on assisting with homework, working with Pre-school children, and other topics concerning effective parenting.

*Create a classroom newsletter to be distributed to all parents in the student homework folder.

*Provide a parent center and update as funds become available. The parent center will be housed in the school library. The Bryant School District also provides pertinent information at the District Parent Center.

Current items in the parent center:

- *Brochures on parenting tips
- *Parenting Videos

- *Homework Help/Tips
- *Information on parenting from The US Department of Education
- *Access to a computer/internet
- *Books with information on effective parenting & other topics important to parents.

Parental Awareness in student learning

Springhill Elementary School will:

*Schedule regular "Parent Nights" where parents are given a report on the state of the school and an overview of curriculum, assessment, expectations of both parents and teachers, and how parents can assist and make a difference in his or her child's education.

Examples include:

- *PTO Night- Report to the Public
- *Family Nights
- *Open-house meeting for parents the week before school begins.

Encouraging parental support and assistance

Springhill Elementary will encourage parental support and assistance in the following ways:

*Give the parents our policy that encourages parents to:

- a. Visit a child's classroom during regular school hours and scheduled events.
- b. Visit with the counselor/and or principal regularly or if a need arises.
- c. Understand parent visitation in classrooms as well as pick-up procedures.

*Maintain a volunteer resource book that lists and matches the interests and availability of volunteers to school staff members. The survey that shows parental interests, frequency of wish to participate (may be only once a year), and listing options for those available to work at home will be included.

- a. A volunteer sign-in sheet in the resource book will be located in the outer office.
- b. Parents entering the building will be encouraged to volunteer their services.
- c. The resource list and survey will be included in the resource book.

*Make available statements attesting to the school district's commitment to parental involvement by including such statements in the Springhill Elementary handbook/agenda..

Developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment

Springhill Elementary School will provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment by:

*The use of and access to department website tools for parents that will be available at the district parent center.

*Assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation by reading information provided in newsletters sent home with students.

Recognizing full partnerships between school and family

Springhill Elementary School recognizes that a parent is a full partner in the decisions that affect his or her child and family. Springhill Elementary will include parents by:

*Publishing the school's process for resolving parental concerns (defining the problem, the chain of command, and how to develop solutions) in the Springhill Elementary School's (Bryant School District's) handbook/agenda.

*Scheduling parental conferences at times agreed upon by the parents, teachers, and or principal.

*Including parents on the handbook/agenda committee to review and update handbook/agenda annually.

*Providing extra copies of the handbook/agenda so it will be available upon requests.

Collaborating with Community Resources

*A parent advisory commission made up of current parents will be established to provide advice and guidance for school improvement.

*Work with community/business members to help with and promote activities within the school to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.

- a. Ask for volunteers to visit classrooms.
- b. Ask for monetary or human resource support for activities/programs.
- c. Ask for referral services.

*Support the development, implementation, and regular evaluation of the program to involve parents in the decisions and practices of the school district by including parents in the ACSIP plan, Title I plans, Title VI plans, handbook revisions, and in the PTO. Parent evaluation surveys will be disseminated each year and will be included as a part of the school/district evaluations of programs.

The principal(s) of Springhill Elementary School will designate at least one certified staff member that is willing to serve as parent facilitator to organize meaningful training for staff and parents promoting and encouraging a welcoming atmosphere to parental involvement.

Designate a certified staff member at the beginning of the school year.

Show parental involvement as an asset to the school.

The Bryant School District will require (2) two hours of staff development for elementary teachers to enhance the understanding of effective parenting every four years. These two hours may be included in the teacher's required (60) sixty hours of staff development required by the state. The district will provide (2) two hours of staff development.

The Bryant School District will require (3) three hours (every four years) for district administrators of staff development designed to enhance understanding of effective parental involvement strategies and the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.

Springhill Elementary School will annually review and update the parental involvement plan and give it to the superintendent.

Springhill Elementary School Family Community Engagement Plan will be reviewed by Department of Education as part of the Bryant School District's Family Community Engagement Plan.

Activities Calendar

August

Weekly Newsletters
Open House/ Annual Report to the Public
Distribute Informational Packets (including survey/calendar)

September

Weekly Newsletters
ACSIP Meetings
Progress Reports
Dawn with Dads
Parent Nights

October

Weekly Newsletters
PTO – Kindergarten Night
Parent-Teacher Conferences
Family Community Engagement Meeting
Book Fair
Report Cards
Red Ribbon Week
Mornings with Mom
Springhill Fall Carnival

November

Weekly Newsletters
Dawn with Dads
Kindergarten Thanksgiving Celebration
School Food Drive
Progress Reports
PTO Veterans Day Program – 5th Grade

December

Weekly Newsletters
PTO Third Grade Christmas Program
Mornings with Mom

January

Weekly Newsletters
Report Cards
Dawn with Dads

PTO-TOT Performance

February

Weekly Newsletters
Progress Reports
Valentine Parties
Breakfast with buddies
PTO-Second Grade Performance
Sweetheart Ball
Hoops for Heart

March

Weekly Newsletters/School Newsletters
Report Cards
PTO-Fourth Grade Recorder Performance
Arkansas Children's Hospital Fundraiser
Parent Teacher Conferences

April

Weekly Newsletters/School Newsletters
Progress Reports
Fifth Grade Play
PTO- First Grade Performance
Breakfast with buddies

May

Weekly Newsletters/School Newsletters
Kindergarten Round-up
Awards Programs- Semester
Graduation Programs (K/5)
Report Cards
Field Day Celebration
College/Career Fair
Leadership Day

All Year

Positive Communication with Parents
Email/Mail Communication
Updated Webpage Information
Eagle Excellence/Ambassador
PTO Sponsored Spirit Nights at local restaurants

Springhill Elementary School

Family Community Engagement Committee Members

Tara Efird– Counselor/Family Community Engagement

Russell Sherrill – Principal

Deborah Tazelaar-Asst. Principal

Rachael Cobb – School Nurse/Parent

Melissa Sanders – PTO/Parent

Laurie Key-Parent