

Friendship Aspire Academy Little Rock  
DISTRICT PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN  
2022-2023

**District Name:** Friendship Aspire Academy – Little Rock  
**Coordinator Name:** Virginia Perry Henry  
**Plan Review/Revision Date:** 6/17/2022  
**District Level Reviewer, Title:** Phong Tran, Superintendent

**Committee Members, Role:**

Virginia Perry Henry, Deputy Superintendent  
Kevin Young, Principal  
Raven Gammage, Extended Learning Coordinator  
Brianna Spears, District Social Worker  
Laurette Whipps, Principal  
Zaria Watkins, Parent  
Brittany Walker, Parent  
Detevian White, Parent

**1: Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives**

Friendship Aspire Academy School District (hereto referred to as the FAA) is committed to fostering and promoting parental engagement with our schools. To achieve this goal, our schools will involve parents in the development of the policy and the process of school review and improvement through the following types of involvement activities:

- Parental involvement group meetings
- Establishment and/or continuation of Parent Advisory Council (PAC)
- Mystery Reader (within classrooms)
- Monthly Parent Celebrations and Family of the Month
- Coffee with the principal
- Establishing a parent/stakeholder volunteer protocol
- Conducting parent surveys at the beginning and end of each school year
- Parent/Scholar Academic Conferences during each quarter
- Neighborhood walks
- Home visits
- School Improvement Meetings
- Parent University

## **Part 1: Jointly Develop Expectations and Objectives**

### **Strategies for Reaching the Goal**

- FAA will recruit at least one parent from each school in the development of the district parent and family engagement plan, school-wide program plan, and support and improvement plan. FAA will also hold a parent meeting to solicit input to ensure a parent and family engagement plan is equitable for all. FAA's parental engagement committee will disseminate the information to the community to promote parental engagement.
- The dissemination of information will be through meetings at each school, parent/teacher conferences, parent centers, and the annual report to the public.
- FAA will ensure that parents of children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have the same access as other parents including information translated into the native language.
- FAA will solicit parental involvement in the Friendship Aspire "Before" and Afterschool" Extended Day Program.
- FAA will use social media avenues such as Facebook as a strategy to encourage and promote parent involvement within each building.
- FAA will ask school principals to solicit information about interests, frequency of availability, options of volunteering from home and to engage in other activities to welcome families, parents, and community as volunteers.
- Each FAA principal will select one willing parent as the Family and Community Engagement Facilitator for the district.
- Each principal will ensure that the district is aware of building-level activities. This will ensure that the school website to be updated and maintained.
- Principals will develop strategic approaches to incorporate parents in the Recruitment & Enrollment Process, each day.
- FAA will establish expectations and objectives for meaningful involvement, reflecting the specific needs of students and families.
- FAA will place the parent and family engagement plan on the website and as a supplement to the student handbook.
- FAA will involve parents and families regarding how parent and family engagement funds are used.
- An annual meeting will be held to update the policy for next year's program. The meeting will be held on a forthcoming date. Principals of each school will lead this annual meeting. Parents/Patrons that are interested in serving on the committee may contact the applicable principal for their campus.
- The parental involvement contact person at each school will be the principal.
- FAA will incorporate the parent and family engagement plan into the school-wide plan.

- FAA will submit to the state the comments from parents who deem the school-wide plan unsatisfactory.
- FAA will send home to all parents the Parent & Family Engagement plan and will have on file the parent's signature acknowledging that they have received the Parent & Family Engagement Plan.
- FAA will ensure that the Parent & Family Engagement Plan will be filed and uploaded to Indistar by August 1st of every school year.
- FAA will post the Parent & Family Engagement Plan on the district website by August 1.

## **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.)*

### **Strategies for Reaching the Goal**

FAA will conduct a 2-week Friendship Institute for the Advancement of Teachers (F.I.A.T) professional development Bootcamp for all staff in July before the commencement of school each year. The dates for this school year are July 18-August 8, 2022. The Bootcamp will provide professional development to staff, teachers, and administrators on:

- Parent contributions and their value
- How to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners
- How to implement and coordinate parent programs
- How to build ties between parents and FAA
- In addition to the Bootcamp, FAA will conduct ongoing professional development for all staff and teachers ongoing throughout the school year.
- FAA will have on record teacher sign-in sheets for every PD and will have an aggregate of PD hours completed for each teacher, staff, and administrator.
- FAA will provide appropriate PDs for all volunteers to ensure they are equipped to help our students, teachers, and school.
- FAA will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support to schools in developing the school's parent and family engagement plans, implementing effective parent and family involvement activities, and developing school-parent compacts.
- FAA will ensure to the extent possible that information sent home is in the parent's native language.
- Monitor FAA's parent and family engagement plan to ensure the following tasks are performed:
- Development and update of Parent and family engagement plan
- Offer flexible meeting time in the development of the parent and family engagement plan

- Provide information to parents about the district's program in a parent friendly summary of the (district) Parent and Family Engagement Plan as a supplement to the Student Handbook and obtain signatures to have on file to ensure receipt of this plan
- Provide information sessions for parents in working with their child to improve academic achievement (reading and math).
- FAA will collaborate with local universities, agencies, faith-based organizations, etc to assist with the effective implementation of a Parent and Family Engagement Program.

3. *(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.)*

### **Part 3: Building Parent Capacity**

Strategies for reaching the goal:

- FAA will provide and assist participating parents with information in such areas as:
  - National, state, and local education goals and academic standards
  - State and local academic assessments
  - Parents' rights as defined in Title I, Part A.
  - How to monitor their child's progress and work with their teachers to improve the achievement of their children
- FAA will foster parental involvement by providing materials and training to help parents work their children to improve their children's achievement in literacy and technology use.
- Campus Principals will conduct an annual survey with parents to gather information on how to improve school effectiveness.
- Principals will ensure that building level activities and programs are sent out to parents through multiple avenues including letters, email, Classroom DOJO, etc.
- FAA will implement a Parent University Program. Parent University educates, engages and empowers our parents and families. Through meaningful classes and workshops, this program expands the resources parents have to support their student's academic growth and well-being.

### **Parent University Goals:**

- Increase access to and understanding of Friendship's core values, policies, and practices
- Increase parental involvement in every school
- Provide opportunities to network with professionals and other parents
- Help parents develop and strengthen positive parenting practices
- Empower parents to become effective advocates for their children
- Strengthen home-to-school partnerships
- Provide opportunities and support for families to achieve academic and non-academic goals

### Parent University Workshops:

**Academic Intervention and Support:** Parents acquire the tools to assess their student's academic progress and deploy interventions as needed.

**Education:** Facilitators cover a range of topics beneficial to Friendship families such as financial literacy and college planning.

**Growth and Personal Development:** Parents increase their own personal and professional growth, enabling them to effectively advocate for their children and themselves.

**Social Emotional Learning:** Information focuses on students' social and emotional development and how these factors impact academic achievement.

**Technology:** Parents learn more about how technology increase learning for students and parents.

By providing our parents and families with the knowledge and resources to better support their student's education, they become more engaged in ways that improve both student outcomes and school performance.

### **Parent Center:**

***\*\*FAA will provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request.***

### **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.)*

### **Part 4: Strategies for Reaching the Goal:**

The district receives less than \$500,000 in Title I, Part A.

FAA will ensure the funded activities and strategies are consistent with the district PFE policy.

### **Strategies for reaching the goal:**

- Campus Principals will survey parents annually, including questions to identify barriers, need, and strategies to parent and family engagement.
- FAA will provide an opportunity for our parents to assist in the development of the evaluation procedures, including analysis of data collected.
- FAA will use findings from the evaluation process to:
- Revise the parent and family engagement policy to the extent possible
- Design school improvement policies, as they relate to parent and family engagement.

- FAA will develop and disseminate an annual parent activity evaluation report to share with parents, staff, and the community.
- Each building principal will conduct an annual Parent Forum to gain insight into parents' desires for the forthcoming school year.
- FAA will use these findings from the survey to the Parent Forum to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement.
- FAA will involve parents and families regarding how parent and family engagement funds are used.
- FAA will review and approve the plan for each school.
- FAA will review and update the district plan annually by August 1st.

## **5: Coordination**

*(Describe/List how the district will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional support and resources to families such as public preschool programs or organizations to help students transition to elementary, middle, high, and postsecondary schools or careers.)*

### **Part 5: Coordination**

Strategies for reaching the goal:

- FAA will coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs. Currently, FAA partners with Arkansas United, Tidy Janitorial, Brandon House, Girl Scouts of America, and Little Rock Police Department .

FAA will conduct other activities, such as:

- FAA has hired a full-time social worker to serve the families in our network and connect the to needed resources.
- Parental involvement group meetings
- Mystery Reader (within classrooms)
- Coffee with the principal
- Establishing a parent/stakeholder volunteer protocol
- Conducting parent surveys at the beginning and end of each school year
- Parent/Scholar Academic Conferences during each quarter
- Neighborhood walks
- Home visits
- School Improvement Meetings
- Each principal will devote their final Coffee with the Principal Meeting of the school year for parents to collaborate with the Superintendent on the school's annual Title 1 Application.

*Current Plan accepted by DESE for 2021 school year.*

