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 The Academies At Jonesboro High School (Jonesboro School District)  
 301 Hurricane Drive  
 Jonesboro AR 72401  
 870-933-5881

### **School Engagement Plan**

Please read over the form closely, being sure to address all guiding questions. Note the Assurances section allows you to confirm practices that are required but do not need further elaboration within the written portion of your plan. In the response fields, you may include links to additional information that can help support your story as you answer the guiding questions.

#### **1: Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives**

Describe how the School works with parents and families to develop and review relevant plans, policies, and strategies related to engagement.

##### *Guiding Questions*

- **1.1:** *How does the School - in collaboration with parents - establish an engagement plan that reflects the specific academic improvement needs of the School, and that includes programs and practices that enhance engagement and address the specific engagement needs of students and their families?*  
 [A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(a)]
- **1.2:** *What efforts have been made to ensure adequate representation of parents and families of participating children in the process (Title I families)?*  
 [ESSA § 1116(c)(3)]

Parents/guardians will be invited to join the Family and Community Engagement efforts of the school at the beginning of the school year and will be continually reminded of ways to become involved throughout the school year. Because The Academies at Jonesboro High School is a 100% Title I school, all parents/guardians interested in serving on the Family and Community Engagement Committee will be encouraged to participate in the development/review of the school's plans, policies and strategies to enhance engagement, addressing specific needs of students and families.(1.1, 1.2) The committee will meet a minimum of twice per school year for the purpose of reviewing such documents. Committee meetings will be scheduled and announced via social media, phone, and emails prior to in-person and/or virtual meetings. In addition to meetings, surveys will be used to inform the F.A.C.E. team of the needs of our families.(1.1) A parent friendly version of the F.A.C.E. plans will be provided to every family, noting the F.A.C.E. coordinators contact information and how to become more involved with the school.

#### **2: Communication**

Describe how the School will communicate with and distribute information to parents and families.

##### *Guiding Questions*

- **2.1:** How does the School distribute an informational packet appropriate for the age and grade of each child annually, ensuring to include:
  - description of the engagement program
  - recommended roles for parents, students, teacher, and the School
  - ways for a family to get involved
  - survey regarding volunteer interests
  - schedule of activities planned throughout the school year
  - regular, two-way, and meaningful system for parents/teachers to communicate

[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(3)(B)(1)]
- **2.2:** How will the School ensure information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is provided to parents in a format and in a language that parents can understand (to the extent practicable)?
  - how is relevant information provided in a variety of ways? (For example, paper copies made available, as well as social media posts, website links, parent apps, etc.?)

[ESSA § 1116(e)(5)]
- **2.3:** How does the School offer flexible opportunities for meetings with families?
 

[ESSA § 1116(c)(2)]

Parent information packets including, but not limited to, all the information listed 2.1 are distributed during open house week and included as a part of the registration packet for students new to the school. The information will also be posted on the web. In order to facilitate two-way communication, our website contains links to teacher's email accounts so parents can email their child's teachers at any point in time.(2.1)

The Academies at Jonesboro High School utilizes ParentNotices, TransPerfect, translation apps and in-person translators to communicate with parents who have ESL needs. The school utilizes our website and social media as a communication tool with parents. We will also provide paper copies and/or translation for families, face to face meetings, phone calls, emails, and Zoom meetings. (2.2) Meetings in which parents may want to be involved will be scheduled at various times and platforms allowing for parents to participate. Meetings may be live streamed, recorded for later viewing, and/or held at flexible times to help ensure all parents have the opportunity to participate. (2.3)

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### **3: Building Staff Capacity**

Describe activities that will be used with School staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners.

#### *Guiding Questions*

- 3.1:** How does the School build staff capacity to work with parents as equal partners? This may include workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, and online resources that will be used to ensure ALL School staff (including teachers, specialized instructional personnel, principals, and other School leaders) are aware of:
- the value and utility of contributions of parents [Title I schools]
  - how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners [Title I schools]
  - how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between home and the School [Title I schools]
  - how to respond to parent requests for parent and family engagement activities [Title I schools]
  - that parents play an integral role in assisting student learning [all schools]
  - how to welcome parents into the School and seek parental support and assistance [all schools]
  - the School's process for resolving parent concerns as outlined in the School handbook, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions [all schools]

[ESSA § 1116(e)(3); A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(5-7)]

The Academies at Jonesboro High recognized the important role parents/family/community play in the education of our students. Teachers at JHS will participate in 2 hours of professional development that will increase their understanding of all aspects of Family and Community Engagement from welcoming parents, communicating and

working with them, and resolving concerns parents may have. Teachers will also gain understanding of the value of parent contributions and how to coordinate parent programs. (3.1) This training may be face to face or utilize the IDEAS portal.

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#### **4: Building Parent Capacity**

Describe how the School provides opportunities to build parents' capacity to play a role in their children's academic success. This may include conducting workshops, conferences, classes, online resources, Academic Parent-Teacher Team meetings or providing equipment or other materials.

##### *Guiding Questions*

- **4.1:** *How does the School provide timely information about the following:*
  - a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the School
  - the forms of State and Local academic assessments used to measure student progress, including alternate assessments
  - the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards students are expected to meet

*[ESSA § 1116(c)(4)(B)]*
- **4.2:** *How does the School provide assistance to parents in understanding the following:*
  - the requirements of Title I, Part A
  - how to monitor their child's progress
  - how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

*[ESSA § 1116(e)(1)]*
- **4.3:** *What types of materials and training does the School provide to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement? This may include:*
  - literacy training
  - technology training, including education about copyright piracy and safe practices
  - resources that describe or assist with the child's curriculum
  - other activities such as workshops, conferences, online resources like tutorials or webinars, and any equipment or other materials, including parent resource centers

*[ESSA § 1116(e)(2)]*
- **4.4:** *Involve parents of students at all grade levels in a variety of roles, including without limitation:*
  - involvement in the education of their children
  - volunteer activities
  - learning activities and support classroom instruction
  - participation in School decisions
  - collaboration with the community
  - development of School goals and priorities
  - evaluating the effectiveness of the School-level Improvement Plan

*[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(1); ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.03]*
- **4.5:** *How does the School promote and support responsible parenting? The School shall, as funds are available:*
  - purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative material regarding responsible parenting through the School library, advertise the current selection, and give parents an opportunity to borrow the materials for review
  - Create parent centers

*[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(4)(A)]*
- **4.6:** *How does the School provide instruction to parents on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation:*

- *role play and demonstration by trained volunteers*
- *the use of and access to Department of Education website tools for parents*  
[<https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov>]
- *assistance with nutritional meal planning*  
[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(5)(B)(ii)(a-d)]

At the beginning of each school year the Academies at Jonesboro High School hosts parent meetings/open houses where parents have the opportunity to meet teachers and hear about the current curriculum and assessments that their students will be experiencing. During the open house, parents will be able to learn about volunteer opportunities, how to be involved in decision/goal making, and how to participate in the overall school community to enhance student learning. In addition, teachers sponsoring clubs or activity groups will host meetings in which parents are trained to volunteer in specific ways for specific group needs. (4.4)

Each year, at the beginning of school, student's standardized test scores from the previous year are provided to parents at open house. Counselors are available to answer any questions about the scores that night or by email or appointment. (4.1)

By October 2023, the school will host a Title I Parent meeting to explain the requirements of Title I, Part A and further explain how parents can track their students' academic progress by using eSchool and staying in contact with their student's teachers. (4.1, 4.2)

Before registration for the 2024-25 school year begins in the spring, Jonesboro High School will host a Parent Night that will provide parents with the opportunity to hear and ask questions about the registration process, course requirements, various tracts for students and much more. As well as academic information, parents will also be able to explore extracurricular activities available to students at JHS. This event will be scheduled in late January or February 2024. (4.3, 4.4)

The Academies at Jonesboro High School maintains a parent center in the media center. The parent center contains parenting books, informational books on teen topics, and family games for checkout. The center also offers free brochures and handbooks providing information on responsible parenting and how to help students be successful in high school. In addition to the physical parent center, parents have access to our website that includes links to tools for parents provided by the Department of Education, electronic copies of brochures and handbooks, and age appropriate tips/tools for learning. At any time, parents may request assistance from the school's FACE coordinator with technology, connecting with teachers, and/or materials needed to help students succeed. (4.3, 4.5, 4.6)

Twice per year the school hosts parent/teacher conferences where parents are encouraged to meet with their student's teachers to discuss academic progress and strategies to promote student learning. (4.1, 4.2)

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## **5: Coordination**

Describe how the School will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners, including alumni, to provide additional supports, services, and resources to families..

### *Guiding Questions*

- **5.1:** *How does the School investigate and utilize community resources in the instructional program?*  
[ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 5.06]
- **5.2:** *How does the School coordinate and integrate programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs? Some examples include:*
  - *public preschool programs such as Head Start*
  - *organizations/activities to help students transition to elementary, middle, high, and postsecondary schools or careers*
  - *wraparound services that allow families to send their children to school ready and able to focus on learning*
[ESSA §1116(e)(4)]
- **5.3:** *In what ways does the School enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Association or organization and ensure leaders of said organization will be included in appropriate decisions?*  
[A.C.A. § 6-15-1702(b)(8)(B)(ii)]

The Academies at Jonesboro High School partners with several area business and community partners to provide in-school, as well as, out of school opportunities for students to learn about the world outside of high school. These opportunities include, but are not limited to internships, guest speakers, Academy Advisory meetings, interviews, etc. (5.1)

The Academies at Jonesboro High has an advisory board that is composed of parents, alumni and community business leaders. The function of the advisory boards is to advise and help guide the direction each academy takes (through subcommittee work) in preparing students for careers in their chosen field of study. (5.1)

The Jonesboro School District partners with ASU Newport to provide college and career coaches on the campus of JHS. The college and career coaches work with students and their parents to provide information and assistance for post-secondary educational and/or career opportunities. Their work would include, but not be limited to, providing college information, assistance with ACT registration, providing assistance with the FASFA applications and other necessary paperwork for financial aid. (5.2)

School based mental health is provided for students and families through Methodist Family Health. There are therapists and case managers on campus working with students and families daily. (5.2)

The Academies at JHS will enable the formation of PTO group, a group that organizes and fosters parental and community involvement within the school. Leaders of this organization will be utilized in the decision making processes of the school as it pertains to the student's educational process . (5.3)

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## **6: Annual Title I Meeting** *(Title I schools)*

Describe the details regarding the Annual Title I meeting used to inform parents of the requirements of Title I, the School's participation, and the parents' rights to be involved.

### *Guiding Questions*

- **6.1:** *How and when (month/year) does the School conduct the Annual Title I meeting, ensuring that parents are informed of the following? (\*Include a link to the detailed agenda, meeting minutes, and/or slide deck for this year's Annual Title I Meeting, if available.)*
  - *the requirements of Title I and the School's participation*
  - *the parents' rights under Title I (The Right to Know Teacher Qualifications, Right to Request Meetings)*

*[ESSA § 1116(c)(1)]*

By October 2023, the school will host a Title I Parent meeting to explain the requirements of Title I, Part A and explain parents' right to know under Title I. This meeting will be face to face, as well as recorded and placed on the school's website for those unable to attend. (6.1) JHS Title I Parent Meeting Agenda.docx

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## **7: School-Parent Compact** *(Title I schools)*

Describe the process School will follow to jointly develop with parents a School-Parent Compact as required under Title I, Part A.

### *Guiding Questions*

- **7.1:** *How does the School jointly develop a School-Parent Compact which does the following:*
  - *Outlines how parents, the entire School staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement*
  - *Addresses the importance of regular two-way, meaningful communication through:*
    - *conferences (no fewer than 2 each year)*
    - *frequent reports on progress*
    - *reasonable access to staff*

- opportunities to volunteer
- observation of classroom activities

[ESSA § 1116(d)]

- **7.2:** How do families access the compact in order to understand the shared responsibility for improved student academic achievement?
  - Including parent-teacher conferences in elementary Schools, at least annually
  - Include a link or insert the language of the compact to demonstrate this requirement has been met.

[ESSA § 1116(d)(2)(A)]

The Parent/Student/School compact will be reviewed each spring looking forward to the following school year. Any revisions will be made at this time. This will be a part of the annual review of the F.A.C.E plan with the F.A.C.E. committee. (7.1) Compacts are distributed at the beginning of each school year in the Beginning of the year Packet. They are also included in the registration packet for students enrolling at JHS after the school start date and located on The Academies at Jonesboro High School website. (7.2) JHS Parent Student School Compact.docx

## **8: Reservation of Funds** (Title I schools)

Describe how the School uses Title I, Part A funds set-aside for parent and family engagement programs and activities.

### *Guiding Questions*

- **8.1:** If the School is a recipient of set aside funds for parent and family engagement (as part of receiving a Title I, Part A allocation greater than \$500,000):
  - How is the School spending those funds?
  - How does the School determine the priority of how funds are spent?
  - Who is involved in determining that?

[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(A)]

- **8.2:** How does the School provide opportunities for parents and family members to be involved in providing input into how the funds are used?

[ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(B); ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(C); ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(D)(i-v)]

The Academies at Jonesboro High School uses Title I, Part A funding to ensure a high quality education by providing supplemental services, materials, and education for families, as well as, training staff in effective techniques to engage families. Each year the funding is reviewed and determination is made about how funds should be spent for the upcoming school year. The determination is made by a combination of school personnel and parents during the spring review of the F. A.C.E. plan. (8.1)

At the beginning of each school year parents are provided a link to a survey on which they can provide information about materials and services needed. Families are also provided with contact information for the Family and Community Engagement coordinator - Deb Cook - and encouraged to contact her with specific needs or for additional services. During the spring semester a F.A.C.E. meeting will be held to review the F.A.C.E. plan, as well as, review funding and how it should be spent. (8.2)

<b>Assurances</b>
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Please read the following statements closely. By checking these boxes, the School understands the legal requirements and will meet them accordingly.