



Nemo Vista School District Parent & Family Engagement Plan 2024-2025

Section 1: Jointly Developed Expectations & Objectives

The Nemo Vista School District works with parents and families to develop and review relevant plans, policies, and strategies related to engagement, including establishing expectations and objectives.

1.1: Nemo Vista School District involves parents, families, and the community in the development and review of the long-range planning of the district. This will be done by inviting a diverse group of parents, staff, students, and community members to be a part of a district wide Family Engagement Team. The district's long-range goals include not only having more parents involved in on campus activities, but also at home in their child's education. Participation increases will be determined by surveys sent out giving parents the opportunity to rate their opportunities for involvement as well as interests for more involvement. We also want to provide a supportive and collaborative environment in our district where parents feel safe to participate in their student's education.

1.2: NVSD works to ensure adequate representation of Title I parents and families. The two most effective methods for success are listed below:

- NVSD will establish a PFE district committee composed of faculty, students, parents, and community members representative of the district's demographics to develop the Parent & Family Engagement Plan for the district & each school. The District PFE Committee also supports each building level School

Improvement Plan. The 2024-2025 District PFE Committee can be seen at the end of this document

- Adequate representation is also ensured in the two way communication between schools and families. This includes, but is not limited to: sending communication home in a variety of ways (i.e. social media, school website, Parent Square, Class Dojo and other classroom management apps, emails, letters/notes home in red folders, etc.) Communication will also be sent home in parent-friendly format and in other languages as needed.

1.3: The NVSD Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator works with the School Improvement/District Support Committees in order to incorporate the Engagement Plan into the Schoolwide Improvement Plan. The NV District PFE plan is interconnected with the NVE, NVMS, & MVHS School Improvement Plans to provide the most support and understanding to parents & families. Each school within the NVSD has developed a School Improvement Plan to reflect their short and long term goals for the school and how they plan to achieve those goals. The District Engagement Plan seeks to help support the achievement of some of the improvement goals for each building. Listed below are the 2024-2025 school improvement goals from each school that the District Parent/Family Engagement Coordinator and committee will provide assistance with.

- **Elementary** Smart Goal #4 (Short Term): On the STAR Assessment, 80% of the students will increase their reading level each assessment.. NV Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator, Elementary Facilitator, and the Elementary committee will support this goal by helping to increase the size of home libraries for students in grades K-5. Increasing their reading capacity will improve their overall reading level. Access to books outside of school time can be limited for our rurally located school, with the nearest public libraries being 23.7 miles (Morrilton) and 17.2 miles (Clinton) away. This is a barrier for students who want and need to spend more of their time reading, but don't have the resources to develop home libraries. The implementation of free books at each Book Fair, book swaps, and other viable ideas will help increase reading level for each assessment this school year. The stakeholders will also work to raise funds for books for the Book Vending Machine where students can earn books that will be theirs to keep.
- **Middle School** Smart Goal #3 (Long Term): In the 2024-2025 school year Nemo Vista MS will initiate a positive referral program to promote positive behavior and look to decrease negative behavior in the MS by 5%. This is meant to help

with rapport, positive reinforcement, and positive recognition as part of our ongoing social emotional growth ideas. Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator, will help support the MS FLY Program in whatever capacity is needed throughout the year, including but not limited to, recruiting volunteers for reward trips, fundraising for reward trips, and guidance to parents on how to support conflict resolutions from home.

- **High School Smart Goal #4 (Short-Term):** In the 2024-2025 school year at least 40% of 9th graders by the end of the year will have acquired 15 or more service hours and 50% of 10th graders will have acquired 40 or more service hours. The Parent and Family Engagement coordinator, High School facilitator and committee will work with businesses and services within the community and county to help freshmen achieve the required 15 hours of service.

1.4: NVSD creates expectations and measurable objectives to establish meaningful family and community engagement. In our District, the Expectation is to have regular two-way, effective communication with parents/families to keep them highly informed and encourage them to be actively involved in their child's education. We will work to maintain parent/family relationships because they are full partners in their child's education. The following objectives will help achieve this expectation:

Objectives:

- Establish awareness of the District Parent & Family Engagement Committee. The goal is that 10% of the district population will have awareness of this committee.
- Provide support and resources to each school in the district in relation to their School Improvement plan (see 1.3.)
- Provide parents/families with the following:
 - Accessible times and options for parents/families to communicate effectively.
 - Opportunities to participate in conversations about their child(ren)'s education by contributing to the development of the School Improvement Plans, the district Family and Community Engagement Plan, and the Schoolwide Plans, as well as, joining other pertinent committees.
 - Resources to increase parent/family knowledge and participation in activities/events: active social media updating (district facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/NemoVistaSchools/>), monthly PFE newsletter (Elementary), weekly newsletter from each school office, regular newsletter communication from the classroom, update teacher webpages, active messaging on emails, Dojo and other classroom management apps, eSchool, parent/family centers, and sending information to parents/families in other languages as needed.

- Work with parents throughout the school year to educate them on understanding content and how to monitor their student's academic growth (examples: STAR and ATLAS assessments.)
- Take comments and suggestions from parents/families at the annual review and make revisions as deemed appropriate.

Section 2: Building Staff Capacity

Nemo Vista School District will support all schools in the district, including its Title I school in planning and implementing effective parent/family engagement practices.

2.1: The Nemo Vista School District provides support and technical assistance to all its schools, particularly its Title I school, in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement practices. The District Parent & Family Coordinator will develop and implement the use of a “*FARM*” (frequently accessed resource management,) in Google Drive where building level facilitators can work collectively and access needed resources in one central location. NVSD also ensures quality collaboration on both the school engagement plan, school improvement plan, as well as, the school compact in its Title I school, NV Elementary.

2.2: NVSD works to build staff capacity in learning how to work with parents as equal partners. The District Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator will also provide professional development material to each building throughout the year to help aid teachers and staff in their effective communication with parents and community members. All NV staff will have access to a Parent & Family Engagement “*FARM*” that has resources, helpful and time efficient training materials, infographics to use, and other useful and applicable resources. ([linked here](#))

This FARM includes:

- the value and utility of contributions of parents

- 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 the school

2.3: NVSD ensures information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is provided to parents in a format and in a language that parents/families can understand. The district will involve parents of English Language Learner students in the process of discussing student performance, identifying service and support needed, monitoring progress, and evaluating the services being provided. Emphasis will be placed on ensuring that parents of limited English proficient students have access to information in a language and form they can understand throughout this process. Information will also be provided, as requested, on local organizations and agencies that can also provide support to the entire family, if needed.

Section 3: Building Parent Capacity

The Nemo Vista School District supports parents in helping with their student's academic success.

3.1: NVSD provides assistance to parents in understanding important information pertinent to their child's education and success. This includes, but is not limited to:

- State academic standards
- State and local academic assessments
- Requirements of Title I, Part A
- How to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children

3.2: NVSD provides materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve achievement. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- A parent resource center at each building
- A digital resource center that parents & families can access at any time
- Information about the R.I.S.E initiative on the school website
- Information about clothing and food banks are available on the website and in some communication materials.
- Materials and support related to the SMART goals referenced in Section 1.3
- Information and materials distributed during events, such as:
 - Family Night (district wide)
 - Open House/Grade level informational meetings

- Sporting events
- Title I meetings
- College/Career Path meetings (high school)

3.3: NVSD conducts efficient & equitable outreach to parents in our Title I school, NV Elementary, as well as, all other buildings in the district. Receiving information is made equitable to all parents, guardians, & caretakers by the following methods:

- Utilizing data from surveys to determine the most effective means for communication in each building (i.e. text, email, phone call, letter home.)
- Repeatedly sharing important information in a variety of ways such as social media, the school district website, and notes home to maximize views of necessary information.
- Sending information home in a variety of formats (i.e. audio & video) and languages as needed.

Section 4: Coordination

The Nemo Vista School District coordinates with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional support, services, and resources to families that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

4.1: NVSD coordinates and integrates programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Collaboration with Boston Mountain Rural Health Center in Center Ridge including physicals for staff and students, general healthcare for the district staff and community, resources on healthcare for the district and community, and appropriately outsourcing healthcare needs to facilities with necessary skills and equipment for further treatment.
- Partnerships with UACCM in Morrilton for opportunities in concurrent credit for high school students who qualify.
- Inviting community resources to parent & family events (i.e. family night, college scholarship/FAFSA informational, open house, etc.)
- Provide support to the ABC preschool concerning parent & family engagement as needed.
- Collaboration with the Conway County Library and school library/media specialists in implementing the SORA reading database in each building. This database provides a larger selection of books to read at the appropriate level.
- Partnering with community businesses for various projects and events by

utilizing social media and through a database of previous sponsors and contributors.

Section 5: Evaluation & Reservation

Nemo Vista School District evaluates the content and effectiveness of its Engagement Program in improving the academic quality of all schools. Describe how the LEA reserves and uses Title I funds for parent and family engagement programs and activities.

5.1: The District Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator reviews and approves the Engagement Plan for each school annually. The Coordinator will meet throughout the year with the school facilitators to ensure that the objectives within their plan are being met. Technical assistance and training is provided as needed.

5.2: NVSD conducts an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Engagement Program. In the last month of each calendar school year, the District Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator will survey parents and families within the school district. Parents and families will have a chance to respond to both the building level survey from the appropriate School Facilitator, as well as, the district survey from the District Coordinator. The surveys will be provided in both digital and print formats. The district uses Google Forms format to survey parents.

The survey will include, but is not limited to, chances to respond to the following topics:

- Barriers to greater participation by families
- Needs of parents/families to assist with learning of their children
- Strategies to support successful school and family interactions

5.3: NVSD strategically uses the findings from the annual evaluations referenced in 5.2, to develop more effective engagement and to revise, if necessary, parent and family engagement policies in order to improve the academic quality of all schools. The district seeks to create a checks and balances system to ensure equity. After the data from the surveys have been compiled, the District and School Parent & Family Engagement Committees will meet to discuss ideas for new strategies in the weak areas of the plans. The findings and new strategies will be shared with families and the community in multiple formats including: infographics to be sent home, links to reports via social media, as well as links to the reports on our school district website. The District Coordinator and School Facilitators will also use the findings to drive changes in the following school year's plans. This system will ensure voices from parents, families, and community members are given a chance to be heard and utilized each year. It also

provides accountability to the Coordinator and Facilitators.

5.4: NVSD determines the amount of funds to set aside for parent and family engagement activities and practices at each school in the district using parental input, staff, students, stakeholders, and needs assessment data. 2024-2025 funds will provide for reasonable, necessary and allowable cost of parent/family engagement activities/nights, parenting resources, and professional development. The funds will support the district's Title I school with highest needs first. The Federal programs coordinator oversees the allocation of funds with suggestions from administrators, the District Parent Coordinator, School Facilitators, and parents/families engaged in the schools that are consistent with the district parent and family engagement plan. Parents/families, in the Elementary, engage in the allocation of Title I, Part A funds for parental engagement at district meetings. The budget is shared during the Title I Parents Right to Know/Annual Title I Meeting.

5.5: NVSD shares the budget for the Middle School and High School engagement activities and programs with parents and family members as needed. The district shares the budget for Elementary engagement activities and programs with parents and family members at the annual committee meeting. NVSD will provide the same opportunities for parents and family members to be involved in providing input into how the parent & family engagement funds are used.

Assurances

- A.1: LEA understands that by August 1st annually, it must review and update accordingly the District Engagement Plan. [A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)(1-2)]
- A.2: LEA understands that the District Engagement Plan should be sent to the State for review in Indistar no later than August 1st. If the plan is returned for revisions, those revisions should be made and the plan sent for an additional review within two weeks. [A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)]
- A.3: LEA understands that the District Engagement Plan must be made available to families and the local community on the district website under State Required Information no later than August 1st; if revisions are necessary, the final accepted copy should take its place once available. [A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)]
- A.4: LEA understands that a parent-friendly summary/explanation of the Engagement Plan should be included in the current student handbook. [A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a); ADE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Section 3.02]
- A.5: LEA understands its obligation for ensuring professional development requirements related to parent and family engagement are met and that records are maintained accordingly. [A.C.A. § 6-15-1703(a); A.C.A. § 6-17-709]
- A.6: LEA understands its obligation to train all volunteers at least annually and be able to provide proof of that training, if requested. [A.C.A. § 6-15-1703(b)]
- A.7: LEA understands its obligation to obtain signatures for each parent acknowledging receipt of the District's Engagement Plan summary/explanation. [A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)(3)(B)]
- A.8: LEA understands its obligation to reserve at least 1 percent of its Title I, Part A allocation for engagement purposes should such total allocation amount to \$500,000 or more. Nothing limits LEAs from reserving more than 1 percent of its allocation for engagement purposes. [ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(A)]
- A.9: LEA understands that all Title I, Part A funded engagement activities and strategies should remain consistent with all information set forth in this parent and family engagement plan. [ESSA § 1116(a)(3)(D)]
- A.10: LEA understands its obligation to submit to the State any comments from parents who deem the schoolwide plan unsatisfactory. These comments can be sent to ade.engagementmatters@ade.arkansas.gov [ESSA § 1116(b)(4)]
- A.11: LEA understands its obligation to provide other reasonable support for engagement activities to ensure the effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. [ESSA § 1116(e)(14)]
- A.12: LEA understands that if it has 20 or more children of military families enrolled or has a total enrollment of 3,000 students overall that it must appoint a district military education coordinator, and the district military education coordinator shall be included in the establishment and adoption of a public school district's and public school's parent and family engagement plan. [A.C.A. § 6-28-116(2)(A)(3)(B)]

LEA Information

District/LEA Name:	Nemo Vista School District
District Engagement Coordinator's Name:	Lindsey Ketchum
Plan Revision/Submission Date:	7/30/2024
District Level Reviewer Name, Title:	Melinda Anderson, Interventionist

Committee Members, Role

<u>Teacher/Staff</u>	<u>Title</u>
Lindsey Ketchum	District Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator
Regina Tilley	Elementary PFE Facilitator
Kyle Payne	Middle School PFE Facilitator
Christina Loyd	High School PFE Facilitator
Johnna Setzer	Elementary Principal
Chase Fresneda	Middle/High School Principal
Sammie Beene	Assistant Principal/District Technology
Shelby DeSalvo	Teacher

<u>Parent</u>	<u>School</u>
Taylor Bryant	Elementary
Alison Farley	Elementary
Jackelyn Farrow	Elementary
Halie Jones	Elementary
Jessica Gifford	Elementary
Mindy Barclay	Middle School
Tessica Guinn	Middle School
Anna Strack	Middle School
Nikki Koone	High School
Jennifer Carroll	High School
Kara Jones	High School

<u>Student</u>	<u>School</u>
Mia Morrow Wyatt Khan	Elementary
Bricen Bushong Ava Spears	Middle School
Adalyn Holt Nyke McKissen	High School

<u>Community Member</u>	<u>Title</u>
Cindy Gottsponer	Local Business Owner
April Pyzer	Local Business Owner

References

State

Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-1701 et seq.

Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Parental Involvement Plans and Family and Community Engagement

Federal

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by Every Student Succeeds Act, 114 P.L. 95, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6312, 6318, 6320

Find additional guidance on the DESE Parent and Family Engagement Requirements webpage. For any questions about completing this form or meeting legal compliance, please contact the DESE Engagement Unit at

ade.engagementmatters@ade.arkansas.gov or 501-371-8051.