

AR
Jim Stone Elementary School (Conway School District)
4255 College Ave
Conway AR 72034
501-450-4808

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
Conway Public Schools - Jim Stone Elementary

School Improvement Status
B

Grade Levels
Kindergarten - Fourth Grade

Parent Involvement Coordinator
Kristy Bentley, Media Specialist

Are you Title I Schoolwide?
 Yes
 No
 N/A

Percent of free and reduced lunch
39%

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

Enter committee members

First Name
Kristy

Last Name
Bentley

Position
Parent Involvement Coordinator

Enter committee members

First Name
Mandi

Last Name
Wilson

Position
PTO President

Enter committee members

First Name
Donnie

Last Name
Dietz

Position
Parent

Enter committee members

First Name

Nicole

Last Name

Knapp

Position

Parent

Enter committee members

First Name

Nykela

Last Name

Jackson

Position

Parent

Enter committee members

First Name

Amy

Last Name

Wanamaker

Position

Parent

Enter committee members

First Name

Mark

Last Name

Lewis

Position

Principal

Enter committee members

First Name

Keisha

Last Name

Gibson

Position

Assistant Principal

Enter committee members

First Name

Lexi

Last Name

Hammons

Position

Alumni

Enter committee members

First Name

Stacy

Last Name

Hammons

Position

Faculty

Enter committee members

First Name

Laurel

Last Name

Breashars

PositionFaculty

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

Jim Stone Elementary implements many differentiated strategies to communicate with parents to foster parent involvement. The school provides a weekly newsletter, *The Stallion Stampede*, in English and Spanish. This provides parents with school news, and calendar of events. Many grade level teams also distribute weekly newsletters informing parents of current events, and skills to be taught.

Jim Stone Elementary has a school website, as well as, many grade level websites. They keep parents up to date on current activities and skills being taught in the classrooms, as well as, resources to aide parents who want to extend their child's learning while at home.

Conway Public Schools has a smartphone app where parents can be informed via push notification about upcoming events. Jim Stone Elementary uses the app often, as well as the district provided Blackboard program where news and events can be pushed out through email, text, push notification, Facebook, and Twitter. Facebook and Twitter are used to keep parents informed as well.

Jim Stone Elementary's third and fourth grade students have academic planners. The students write the daily objectives that were taught and then sent home for parents review and signature. Third and fourth grade parents are also able to access Class Dojo, a classroom management program where they are able to comment and ask questions directly to the teacher about daily events.

Jim Stone Elementary staff hold parent/teacher conferences, and are available to meet with parents as needed to discuss academic progress. The school also provides special workshops, such as Technology Night, to keep parents informed.

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.)

Jim Stone Elementary hosts two parent/teacher conferences annually, on October 19-20, 2016 and March 15-16, 2017.

Jim Stone Elementary offers special workshops to help parents enhance their child's education. The school hosted a Technology Night on September 19th to inform parents about internet safety, free resources provided by the school, state, and district, and free or inexpensive technology devices and programs.

Parents at Jim Stone Elementary are given many volunteer opportunities throughout the school year. The parents can join the Parent/Teach Organization, volunteer for Red Ribbon Week, Fair Parade Float, which was held on September 20, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. Parents can also volunteer in other programs, such as, WatchDog Dad and MASH Mom, the Scholastic Book Fair, Grandparents Day, Stallion Stampede Field Day, and many other school wide activities.

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

Parents are provided with a list of volunteer opportunities in several ways. First, PTO sends home a welcome packet to every family outlining PTO's plans for the year as well as inviting parents to indicate interest in various volunteer projects and opportunities. Parents are then emailed a volunteer survey to encourage even more participation. Parents are notified throughout the year through Blackboard about upcoming events and ways they can help. Parents are also sent Sign Up Genius sign ups for volunteer events and things they can provide for the events. Our volunteer training is provided when a volunteer signs in at the office. Our volunteer trainer, Kim Leaton, provides a detailed outline of volunteer protocol and gives an overview of expectations and regulations to each volunteer the first time he or she comes to the school to volunteer. She then has the parents read and sign a confidentiality agreement. Also, Mr. Lewis provides an online WatchDOG Dad and MASH Moms orientation that parents must indicate they have gone through prior to signing up for this activity.

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

At the end of the year, the PTO and Parental Involvement Committee come together to look over and edit the School-Parent Compact. Parents on the committee are encouraged to provide input by the Parental Involvement Coordinator and school administrators.

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?

Jim Stone Elementary has two parents on the Indistar team. The PTO board is also provided with the school plan and encouraged to provide input and suggestions. Jim Stone Elementary is not a Title I school.

6. How will your school provide resources for parents?

Jim Stone Elementary provides parental resources throughout the year through the school newsletter and on the website. The school website also provides a variety of parenting resources including information about health and wellness, parenting help and ideas, homework help, and fun educational websites to provide to their children. Community and district events are passed along to parents via Blackboard, the school newsletter, and the school website. The Jim Stone Elementary Media Center has a parent center providing a variety of resources that parents may check out during the school day and before or after school. The media specialist also provides a technology night detailing the free resources provided by the school, district, and state.

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

Every year, a parental involvement survey is conducted and advertised through Blackboard, the newsletter, and school website. Several reminders are sent and parents are encouraged to provide feedback. PTO also encourages feedback on how to improve and how to better serve the school.

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 administration and parental involvement coordinator will use the survey to improve school culture. During teacher professional development, the parental involvement survey was studied and the teachers and staff brainstormed ways to improve parental involvement and school culture. The school media specialist used comments and questions from parents to plan the Technology Night for parents.

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.)

Jim Stone Elementary 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.***