

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Jim Stone Elementary School will comply with the parental engagement requirements as outlined in ACT 307, of 2007 and Act 397 of 2009.

1. In order to encourage communication with parents, our school will prepare an informational packet to be put on our school website containing descriptions of: The school's parental involvement program; the recommended role of the parent, student, teacher, and school; ways for parents to become involved in the school and their child's education; a schedule of activities planned throughout the school year to encourage parental involvement; and procedures to allow the parents and teachers to communicate in a regular, two way, and meaningful manner with the child's teacher and principal. A survey for the parent regarding their interests concerning volunteering in the school will be sent out by PTO and a volunteer sign up will be provided at the first parent teacher conference. Other ways we encourage communication with parents include:

- Open House
- Kindergarten Camp before school starts
- Conway School District Student Handbook
- Daily Take Home Folders
- Jim Stone Blueprint Weekly Newsletter
- Classroom and grade level weekly newsletter
- Jim Stone Elementary Website <http://jses.conwayschools.org/>
- Conferences with parents
- Notes and phone calls
- Conway Public Schools App
- Jim Stone Social Media Outlets including Facebook and Twitter

2. To help our parents in assisting their children our school shall: Schedule regular Parent and Family Engagement meetings at which parents are given a report on the state of the school and an overview of: A. What students will be learning. B. How students are assessed. C. What parents should expect for their child's education and D. How a parent can assist and make a difference in their child's education. These Parent and Family Engagement Plan meetings include:

- Parent Teacher conferences
- Parent and Family Engagement Events
- Individual parent conferences as needed
- Weekly newsletters from the school and classroom teacher

3. In order to welcome parents, our school shall use the volunteer surveys to compile a Volunteer Resource Book listing the interests and availability of volunteers so that school staff may determine how a volunteer would like to participate; including options for those who are available to help at home and help match school needs with volunteer interests. Teachers will also use the online tool, Sign-Up Genius, to gather volunteers for specific needs. Other ways parents may volunteer include:

- Jim Stone PTO: All parents are invited to attend monthly meetings.

- Watch Dog Dad Program
- Mash Moms Program
- Book Fair
- Grandparents' Day

4. In order to encourage parents to participate as a full partner in the decisions that affect their child and family, our school will provide the process for resolving parental concerns.

5. In order to take advantage of community resources our school will enable a Parent Teacher Organization that will foster parental and community involvement within the school.

- Jim Stone Elementary PTO

6. The Principal shall designate one certified staff member who is willing to serve as a Parent and Family Engagement Facilitator in order to help organize meaningful training for staff and parents; promote and encourage a welcoming atmosphere to foster parent and family engagement in the school and to undertake efforts to ensure that parental participation is recognized as an asset to the school.

- Kristy Bentley, Library Media Specialist

7. We will continue to schedule two parent teacher conferences per school year. These conferences will be widely advertised and scheduled in such a manner that as many parents as possible may visit our campus and interact with their student's faculty.

- Fall Parent-Teacher conferences will be held October 17-18 from 4-7.
- Spring Parent-Teacher conferences will be held March 13-14 from 4-7.

8. We will provide instruction to parents on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment. Websites will be provided to parents on the website.

9. We will continue to engage our parents in activities and programs designed to assist them in helping with their children's learning.

10. We will maintain a Parent Center which will have available various resources, including children's books, parenting books, academic activities and materials such as flashcards, and family games. Materials will be available for check out during school hours from 8:00-3:00.

Parent and Family Engagement is a huge part of the success of our school. Please contact your child's teacher, the principal, or a member of the PTO Board for more information on how you can become a part of your child's education. You may also contact the parent and family engagement facilitator, Kristy Bentley, at 450-4808 or bentleyk@conwayschools.net

