

School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

***Please note: Your 20-21 plan has been populated below. Please make revisions or delete and paste your updated plan for 21-22.**

Click to view Required Components Checklist

(https://www.indistar.org/app/DashboardDocs/Arkansas/2021FamilyEngChecklistComponents_School.pdf)

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School Name:	Douglas MacArthur Junior High School
Facilitator Name:	Rebecca Long
Plan Review/Revision Date:	6/11/2021
District Level Reviewer, Title:	Suzanne Ray Proctor
District Level Approval Date:	7/29/2021

Committee Members, Role:

(Select "Repeat" to open more entry fields to add additional team members)

First Name	Last Name	Position
Todd	Rhoades	Principal
Erin	Hodges	Assistant Principal
Brandon	Craig	Assistant Principal
Rebecca	Long	Library Media Specialist/FACE Coordinator
Pamela	Young	PAT President/Parent
Laura	McDowell	Parent

Committee Members, Role:

(Select "Repeat" to open more entry fields to add additional team members)

First Name	Last Name	Position
Anna	Ditta	Parent
Tina	Coots	MidSouth Plumbing/Community Partner

1: Jointly Developed

(Describe/List how parents will be involved in the development of the school parent and family engagement plan and how parents will be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of parent and family engagement programs.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

Hint

- A DMJHS Family and Community Engagement Committee has been formed to develop a plan that will involve all stakeholders affiliated with the school campus. This committee will involve parents by asking for their suggestions and comments, and will review data to develop a plan to service the needs of all stakeholders. Parents will be asked to serve on the FACE committee to offer their perspective.
- An adequate representation of Douglas MacArthur Junior High School parents will be included in this process.
- Parents will be asked to review, update, and help improve and revise the FACE Plan no less than annually to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. complete a survey during the current school year to evaluate campus programs and give feedback and suggestions.

- Any and all comments and suggestions will be welcome at any time throughout the school year. That information will be reviewed and used to improve the FACE plan to make all parts of the plan inclusive to all stakeholders. If any part of the Title 1 Schoolwide Plan is not satisfactory to parents, their comments will be submitted to the district.
- Any requested meeting regarding the FACE Plan will be addressed.

2: Annual Title I Meeting

(Describe/List when (provide the month/year or month/day/year) the school will hold the Annual Title I meeting to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation as well as the parents' rights to be involved. The Annual Title I meeting should not be used to ask for parent input, but provided as an opportunity to disseminate information and distribute copies of the revised parent and family engagement policy.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

Hint

The DMJHS Title I meeting will be held in September 2021 to inform parents of the Title I program on the campus of Douglas MacArthur Junior High School. Information will be shared with parents regarding:

- Family and Community Engagement Plan
- The requirements of Title 1 and our school's participation
- Parents' Right to Know
- Parent rights under Title I
- A parent-friendly version of the Family and Community Engagement plan will be made available for parents in hard-copy format upon request, on Parent Center website, in MacArthur PAT Newsletter, and on DMJHS's website.

3: Communications

(Describe/List how the parent and family engagement policy will be distributed to parents and how the school is going to communicate with parents including information about how the school 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.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

Hint

Communication between parent, home and school will be a regular, two-way and meaningful process for getting information to all stakeholders. To conduct effective communication from school to home, and from home to school regarding school programs and the progress of students, DMJHS will:

- Distribute informational packets at the beginning of the year and school policy handbooks (either physically or electronically) that include a family-friendly copy of our FACE Plan. Information packets will also be given to parents of any new students transferring to MacArthur during the year. Parents are asked to sign family-friendly copies of the FACE plan and return it to school. Returned FACE Plans will be organized and maintained by the FACE Coordinator, Rebecca Long (rebecca.long@jonesboroschools.net phone: 870.933.5840).
- Informational packets and the FACE Plan will be written in an understandable, uniform format and in a language that parents can understand and is appropriate to the ages and grade levels of each student.
- Informational packets will include Student Compacts, recommended roles, ways for parents and families to get involved in a variety of roles, a survey regarding volunteer interests of parents, and a schedule of activities planned throughout the school year.
- To encourage communication with parents, DMJHS will schedule no less than 2 Parent/Teacher conferences per school year (October 21, 2021/March 17, 2022).
- Open House: 7th grade night and 8th-9th grade night (August, 2021)
- A parent-friendly summary of the FACE Plan will be made available online on our school's website.
- Our school calendar is made available to parents and the community as well.

- Meetings will be offered at various times as necessary to meet the needs of different families and can be conducted in-person, or virtually and recorded for those absent, and home visits are made when necessary.
- To reduce barriers to family engagement, transportation and childcare services may be provided.

To make sure communication between parent, home and school remains a regular, two-way and meaningful process for getting information to all stakeholders, DMJHS utilizes a variety of communication tools:

- Official school social media is utilized frequently to deliver relevant and timely information.
- MAC PAT (Parents and Teachers group) Newsletter
- Douglas MacArthur Junior High School website
- MAC Parent Center and Parent Center website
- Classroom websites: Teacher websites are maintained and updated by each classroom teacher.
- Monthly PAT meetings (third Thursday of each month)
- Family and Community Engagement: The FACE Plan may be found on the MAC Parent Center website and on our school website in a parent-friendly format. Questions regarding the plan can be answered by contacting Rebecca Long @rebecca.long@jonesboroschools.net or by phone at (870) 933-5840.
- Standardized testing dates
- School menus and nutritional information from our cafeteria.
- Lesson plans posted and shared
- Homework assignments posted on HAC and Google Classroom
- Classroom information and tutoring opportunities shared
- The Alert Now System is a parent/staff notification system to alert all stakeholders with information concerning DMJHS
- Community and business partners will be recruited to provide incentives for good behavior and attendance.
- DMJHS Newsletter via social media and email
- DMJHS will disseminate information clearly and specifically by using language that is understandable to all parents in a multimedia approach.
- Grade notices are sent home every two weeks to apprise parents of academic progress.

4: School-Parent Compact

(Describe/List the process the schools will follow to jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

Hint

The School Compact was jointly-developed in previous years identifying the responsibilities that all parties share- student, parent, staff- in the learning process. This document will be reviewed each year with additions and deletions made to meet the needs of all involved in improved student academic achievement.

The School Compact is part of the Informational Packet that goes home at the beginning of the school year. These are returned, alphabetized by grade, stored and filed in the Library Media Center. Those forms not returned by students in a reasonable amount of time will be contacted and a 2nd, 3rd form sent home.

Due to possible continuing Covid-19 contact restrictions, forms may be collected, organized, and stored digitally.

DMJHS has established two-way, meaningful means of communication through:

- 2 conferences held each year, (October 21, 2021 and March 17, 2022)
- Interim grade reports
- Access to staff through email, social media, Remind, GroupMe, conferences, etc.
- Providing parents, families, and community members opportunities to volunteer.
- Through the building and development of a partnership to help our students achieve the State Academic Standards
- Observation of classroom activities
- Encouraging parents to become involved in a variety of roles such as: PAT, Booster Club, volunteering, choir, band, drama, athletics, etc. through the MAC PAT Newsletter and other means of communication.
- Encouraging school staff to use, refer to, and make additions to list of volunteer interests and availability of volunteers.

5: Reservation of Funds

(If the district receives more than \$500,000 in Title I allocation, then it must reserve 1 percent for parent and family engagement activities. A minimum of 90% of that 1% must go to the schools, with priority given to high-need schools. If the school is allocated a percentage of the 1 percent, describe/list how the school will share with parents the budget for parent and family engagement activities and programs and how parents will be involved in providing input into how the funds are used.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

Hint

- DMJHS will make the budget for parent and family engagement activities/programs available to parents during the Title I meeting, and at PAT meetings.
- Families at DMJHS will have the opportunity during the year to take a family/parent survey to provide input for our campus and its programs.
- Input from parents for the allocation of Title I funds is always welcomed and encouraged at any time throughout the school year.

6: Coordination of Services

(Describe/List how the district and/or school will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports and resources to families.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

Hint

To recognize that community resources strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning, DMJHS will:

- Engage in activities that the school determines will use community resources to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.
- Partner with business and community group resources for school supplies, clothing, etc. for students in need, as well as Covid-19 supplies such as masks and hand sanitizer for all students.
- Douglas MacArthur Junior High School will enable and support the formation of a PAT Group--Parents & Teachers of MacArthur--a group that organizes and fosters parental and community involvement within the school. PAT is an organization made up of DMJHS parents and community members who support programs, academics, and activities for all stakeholders. Leaders of the PAT organization will be utilized in all appropriate decisions.
- Utilize the resources of our PAT group to provide resources for families in need of support.
- Use our Career Development facilitators for the JPS district to disseminate valuable information to students and families regarding college and career readiness.
- Throughout all of its efforts, Douglas MacArthur Junior High School will promote and support responsible parenting.
- The FACE Plan will be incorporated into the school's improvement plan, and will be comprehensive and coordinated in nature.
- Resource people from our PAT group and MacArthur and/or JPS alumni to help with support for families in need. (backpack program, clothing, etc.)
- Community Resource Book- maintain a list of community resources available to staff to support the curriculum.
- DMJHS has a student clothes closet that is stocked by the general public and PAT.
- Backpacks for Kids is a program supported by donations and a budget item for our PAT organization. DMJHS Student Council sponsors a food drive to help fill the shelves with food items. Backpacks are provided for students each Friday to have food for the weekend. They are also provided during Thanksgiving, Christmas and Spring Break holidays.
- Junior Auxiliary of Jonesboro partners with DMJHS to provide large item needs for our students who may have lost their home, parent/guardian death.

- School supplies are provided through Stuff the Bus, Valley View Church of Christ, PAT, Arkansas State University.
- Wish List Program-anonymous student profiles are created for those students in need at Christmas including clothing, toys, supplies, toiletries. Parents and organizations select a profile and provide Christmas using the profile.
- Nationwide Insurance of Jonesboro provides a Thanksgiving meal and food for the entire Thanksgiving break for students who are on a compiled list put together by our school counselors.
- Dillard's Department Store provides clothing, shoes and jewelry for students who are elected by the student body to serve on the Snowball court.
- Student physicals are provided free of charge in April/May by Arkansas State University and St. Bernard's Regional Medical Center.
- DMJHS School Nurse provides a list of students in need of glasses after the hearing and vision screening to the Brandon Burlsworth Foundation. Each student name submitted is provided glasses through this foundation.
- Flu shots are offered free of charge by the Arkansas Health Department to the students and staff of DMJHS.
- Covid-19 vaccinations were made available to all DMJHS and JPS staff during the pandemic of 2020-21.
- Covid-19 vaccinations were later made available to all JPS students ages 16 and over, and then ages 12 and over and over in partnership with St. Bernards Health Systems.
- Band students have scholarships provided by community stakeholders through the efforts of our band director, Seth Jansen.
- The Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library's Teen Zone partners with our Library Media Specialist each spring to host author visits for Cyclone students, including free books and prizes.
- Community donations are provided across our campus for students in need. DMJHS staff, counselors, school nurse, etc. reach out across the community and seek help where and when needed. Our community is there to give to any need asked for the students of DMJHS.
- Our Parent Center is available for in-person visits and is located inside the Library Media Center, and virtually on the MAC Parent Center website (www.macparentcenter.weebly.com).

Z: Building Capacity of Parents

(Describe/List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, online resources, Academic Parent-Teacher Team meetings, and any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to support parents in helping their student's academic success.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

Hint

DMJHS will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology to help the parent and family engagement process. Training for school employees will be made available as needed to benefit parents.

- PAT meetings are scheduled monthly in the Library Media Center and are open to all stakeholders to attend and become involved.
- A description and explanation of the curriculum can be found in the curriculum syllabus or on teacher webpages.
- Parents are provided with individual student academic assessment results and interpretations of those results.
- Progress reports are distributed regularly. Access for parents to student grades is available through HAC.
- Parents are provided with a description and explanation of the assessments used to measure student progress and achievement levels of challenging State academic standards.
- Assistance and instruction will be provided to parents of students at MacArthur in understanding Arkansas Academic Standards, state and local assessments including alternative assessments, and common and formative assessments, and Title 1, Part A requirements.
- DMJHS will build the capacity of parents by providing strategies they can use to support their child's academic progress.
- MAC Parent Center is located inside the DMJHS Library Media Center. Materials are available to check out or view in house. MAC Parent Center webpage provides resources for parents. Families may check out materials from the Parent Center, use the computers to check grades, make copies, print, or view educational resources.
- DMJHS information and announcements via social media are available for parents to view.

- Parents are encouraged to partner with teachers to build their child's academic success. This includes the two scheduled parent-teacher conferences per year, and providing school information, including links to teacher websites, MAC Library, and online grade and attendance viewer (HAC), plus the PAT Newsletter. Teachers, counselors and other staff members may offer strategies to parents to support academic success.
- Daily parenting e-Tips (English and Spanish versions) from The Parent Institute provided online via MAC social media, DMJHS school website, and MAC Parent Center website. These daily helpful tips include information on how to make sure your teen is getting enough rest, setting responsible limits on screen time, study skills, testing strategies, avoiding plagiarism, how to encourage your teen, helping teens take ownership for their future such as creating their first resume for part-time summer work, etc. As appropriate and whenever requested, role play and demonstration by trained volunteers will be made available to parents over any topic needed.
- Developmentally appropriate learning activities are incorporated such as providing current paperback books on parenting teenagers, written by parenting experts, to our 7th/8th grade families.
- ACT root word practice workbooks given to our 9th grade families so they can help their students begin preparing for college entrance exams.
- A volunteer interest survey is offered to parents/guardians to find out where/how they can volunteer on campus.
- Parents are encouraged to join the PAT group and MAC Booster Club and get involved on campus.
- PAT and Booster Club work with school liaisons to disseminate important announcements/information via official school social media and email platforms.
- Parents will be made aware of the DESE website: <http://www.arkansased.gov>
- and if needed, how to utilize the tools found there.
- Counselors work with 8th and 9th grade students and parents to ensure they are making the proper course selections and career planning.
- Assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation is also available.

8: Building Capacity of School Staff

(Describe/List activities such as workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, online resources, and Academic Parent-Teacher Team meetings that will be used with school staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners. Describe/List methods of parents' assistance for building staff capacity. Describe/List actions the school will take to provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities.)

Does the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan describe how the school will accomplish each of the required components?

Hint

DMJHS faculty and staff are given professional development and training opportunities to build on their capacity to work with parents as equal partners.

- Staff is provided multiple opportunities during the summer and school year to keep current with professional development supporting the curriculum. Once every fourth year, the Arkansas Department of Education requires a two-hour Parental Involvement training session for all staff. DMJHS Administrators ensure each year that all certified and classified staff complete the required number of professional development hours as set forth by the State Department of Education.
- Teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and all other school leaders are trained and shown how parents play an integral role in student learning and how they can make valuable contributions in their child's education.
- Teachers are trained in how to reach out to and communicate with parents as equal partners, coordinate parent programs building ties between home and school, and how to welcome parents into our school to seek support and assistance. Training includes but is not limited to:
 - Solution Tree
 - RISE training
 - Capturing Kids' Hearts
 - Arkansas Department of Education's FACE Advisory group
 - Arkansas Dept. of Education's Social Media Awareness Campaign (SMACtalk)
 - Mental Health training
 - Suicide Awareness training
 - Covid-19 Safety Protocol training
 - Human Trafficking training

- Staff is also encouraged and shown how to provide information in a language parents can understand and how to respond to parent requests for parent and family engagement activities.
- Recognizing that parents are full partners in student success, Douglas MacArthur Junior High School's process for resolving parental concerns is included in the school policy handbook, which is given to each family and made available online.

9: Building Capacity - Discretionary

(The school parent and family engagement policy/plan may include additional sections describing other discretionary activities that the school, in meaningful consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build capacity.)

Did the School and Parents choose to include any Discretionary (Optional) Components in the School Parent and Family Engagement Plan?

Hint

(Find complete guidance on the DESE Parent and Family Engagement Requirements (<https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Offices/public-school-accountability/federal-programs/parent-and-family-engagement-requirements>) webpage.)

District Feedback

- ☐ Attention: Changes Needed!
- ☐ In Compliance

Comments:

Change district level approval date to 6/2/21. Add title, Assistant Superintendent.

Please try to add more parent members to your committee.

Section 1: Add district contact person: Feedback regarding the MacArthur family and community engagement plan may be sent to Suzanne Proctor, District School Improvement Specialist, suzanne.proctor@jonesboroschools.net

Thanks for including the changes you made this year due to COVID-19; and, discussing what you plan to continue for next year.

Karleen

Close