

## 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 provided annually to the parents of each child in the school. The packet will be located on the school's website and smart phone app. The packet will contain descriptions of: the school's Parent and Family Engagement Plan; 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 parent and family 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. Once a semester, a Parent and Family Engagement meeting will be held to update our plan in order to meet the changing needs of the parents and school and to seek input on ways we can improve upon our parent and family engagement services. A survey for the parents regarding their interests concerning volunteering in the school will be sent out by PTO and a volunteer sign up will be provided at open house. Other ways we encourage communication with parents include:

- Back to School Bash
- Kindergarten Camp before school starts
- Conway School District Student Handbook
- Daily Take Home Folders
- Stallion Stampede Weekly Newsletter
- Classroom and grade level weekly newsletter
- Jim Stone Elementary Website <http://jses.conwayschools.org/>
- Formal and informal conferences with parents
- Notes and phone calls
- Conway Public Schools App
- Jim Stone Social Media Outlets including Facebook and Twitter
- Class Dojo

2. To help our parents in assisting their children our school shall: Schedule regular 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 involvement meetings include:

- Parent Teacher conferences
- Parent and Family Nights
- Individual parent conferences as needed
- Parent and Family Involvement Meetings
- Annual Title I Meeting

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 frequently 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 D.O.G.S Program
- Book Fair

- Grandparents' Day
- Stallion Stampede 5K
- Stallion Stampede
- Box tops for Education

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. We will also encourage parents' input on ways to improve the Parent and Family Engagement Plan and how to spend Title I funds to best benefit our students.

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. During the PTO and Parent and Family Engagement meetings, we will discuss ways to encourage community involvement in our school to strengthen school programs, practices, and learning.

6. The Principal shall designate one certified staff member who is willing to serve as a Parent Facilitator in order to help organize meaningful training for staff and parents; promote and encourage a welcoming atmosphere to foster parental involvement 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 16 and 17 from 4-7.
- Spring Parent-Teacher conferences will be held March 18 and 19 from 4-7.

8. We will provide instruction to parents on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment. The Jim Stone Elementary website will include links to various helpful websites assisting in parenting skills that include nutritional meal planning and preparation; literacy and technology training; and promoting and supporting responsible parenting. The website will also include a link to the ADE website and tools for parents highlighting state academic standards and resources. Parent information can also be found in the school's parent center.

9. We will continue to engage our parents in activities and programs designed to assist them in helping with their children's learning. A description and explanation of curriculum used in our school can be found at [www.conwayschools.org/curriculum.html](http://www.conwayschools.org/curriculum.html). Further assistance and instruction on Arkansas Academic Standards and Academic progress can be found on the ADE website at <http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/>.

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.

Parental Involvement 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 by becoming a member of the WatchDOGS as well as many other opportunities. You may also contact the parent facilitator, Kristy Bentley, at 450-4808 or [bentleyk@conwayschools](mailto:bentleyk@conwayschools).