

Fulbright's
Parental Involvement Plan
2011-2012

"Fulbright is "Bursting with Excitement"

Our School's Mission

The mission of Fulbright Elementary School is to provide a quality, integrated educational program that motivates all children to reach their optimum intellectual, social, emotional and physical development. The students will develop positive attitudes, and behaviors, and appreciation for ethnic and cultural diversity, leading to responsible citizenship.

Fulbright Elementary is charged with the responsibility of serving students in grades Pre-kindergarten through fifth grade. We are a non-Title I school who currently meets the adequate yearly progress (AYP) standard as required by the Arkansas Department of Education. Our student population is comprised of 28.37% of free and reduced lunch.

Parent Involvement Committee Members

Ms. Deborah Mitchell, Principal
Ms. Kim Holland, Gifted Specialist/Parent Facilitator
Mrs. Katie St. John-Short, Art Teacher
Ms. Carol Wolly, Music Teacher
Rhonda Smith-Baker, Counselor
Mrs. Clorithia Johnson, Parent
Mrs. Nancy Delacerda, Parent
Mrs. Debbie West, Parent

Fulbright will communicate with parents to increase parent involvement and to support classroom instruction by distributing weekly/monthly newsletters published by teachers and specialists, and the "Parent Page", which is a school-wide publication developed with the participation of the PTA, principal, nursing staff and counselor; maintaining a school-based website to house classroom teachers and specialists webpages- hence, homework assignments and pertinent classroom information will be available on each classroom webpage; providing parents access to student's academic progress through the use of a PIN number that is distributed prior to the end of the first nine-week period; encouraging parents to use email and to telephone to routinely communicate with members of the school staff (e.g. teachers, specialists, etc.) on an individual basis regarding their child's progress; requiring each teacher to send home a folder containing student papers and

work samples each week- requesting a parent signature and return back to school; providing weekly reports, interim reports and report cards- a parent-friendly letter will be enclosed in the first report that explains their child's grades and overall performance; offering parents special opportunities each year to include their opinions in regards to the school's approach to school improvement-during the annual open house for parents (The ACSIP plan is available on the website and can be provided in hard copy form upon request); offering parents numerous opportunities through brochures sent home with students-posting notices around the school facilities-advertisement through the school's morning broadcast about parent workshops and meetings (e.g. Literacy night, Math night, GT family night, etc.), and using the LRSD student handbook.

Fulbright has planned several parent/family nights to increase parent involvement, build staff and parent capacity. Each event is carefully planned with the parent/child relationship in mind. All grade level teachers (pre-K through 5th), specialists (Music, Art, Physical Education, Gifted and Talented, Counselor) and the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) work together to sponsor/host monthly activities that encourage positive relationship-building:

- Pre-K Bubbles, Balls & Bicycles and Kindergarten Ice Cream Social, August 8th
- Open House Meet & Greet, August 14th –Deborah Mitchell/447-4702
- PreK & K Parent Night, August 22nd –Gay Wyatt (Pre-K) & Courtney Nunn (K)/447-4700
- 1st & 2nd Grade Parent Night, August 23rd –Melinda Henthorne (1st) & Cara Penn (2nd)/447-4700
- 3rd & 4th Grade Parent Night, August 29th –Amy Thompson (3rd)/447-4735 & Thelma Watson (4th) 447-4736
- 5th Grade Parent Night, August 30th –Kelly Shuffield (5th)/447-4732
- Accelerator Reader Parent Night, September 8th –Nancy Delacerda, PTA/447-4700
- Watch Dog DADS meeting, September 15th – Mr. Toth, Top Dog/447-4700
- Grandparents Week, September 19th -23rd – Nancy Delacerda, PTA/447-4700
- Falcon Fix Up, September 24th – Debbie West, PTA/447-4700
- Hall of Fame Assembly, September 29th – Rhonda Baker/447-4704
- Parent-Teacher Conferences, October 14th –Deborah Mitchell/447-4702
- Fall Carnival, October 22nd – Nancy Delacerda, PTA/447-4700
- Hall of Fame Assembly, October 29th – Rhonda Baker/447-4704
- VIPS Reading Day, November 17th - Tracy Jackson, VIPS Chair/447-4700
- Barnes & Noble Book Fair, November 20th – Beth Johnson/447-4706
- 1st Grade Thanksgiving Activity/Celebration, November 22nd – Beverly Westlake/447-4700
- Hall of Fame, November 30th – Rhonda Baker/447-4704
- Spelling Bee Competition, January 5th – Kim Holland/447-4773
- Hall of Fame, January 26th – Rhonda Baker/447-4704
- Father-Daughter Dance, January 27th - TBA
- Parent-Teacher Conferences, February 10th – Deborah Mitchell/447-4702
- Hall of Fame, February 23rd – Rhonda Baker/447-4704
- Hall of Fame, March 29th – Rhonda Baker/447-4704

- 5th Grade Groundhog Shadowing, TBA – Rhonda Baker/447-4704
- Field Day, May 11th - TBA
- AR Assembly, May 15th – Beth Johnson/447-4706
- 5th Grade Celebration, May 25th – Kelly Shuffield/447-4732

Fulbright provides opportunities for parents and community members to support the foundation of the Little Rock School District’s instructional programming through Reading Buddies, tutoring and mentoring. We will also compose and maintain a list of volunteer opportunities and solicit ideas for other types of volunteer efforts during orientation of parents throughout the school year. Parental instruction of how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities at home are provided through our schools’ Literacy and Math nights as well as parent tailor-specific trainings (e.g. How to survive homework with my child? Edline access, How to work with Home Connect, My Capstone, etc.). Teachers and Building administration will provide professional development designed to enhance their understanding of effective parental involvement strategies and the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation. Contact: Kim Holland, Parent Facilitator at (501) 447-4773 or Rhonda Smith-Baker, Counselor at (501) 447-4704

Fulbright school staff, parents, and students incorporate the use of a school-parent-student compact, which is distributed during our annual check-in/registration. This compact agreement outlines how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state’s high academic standards. A copy of the compact agreement is kept in each student’s permanent record and re-visited annually.

Fulbright provides its’ parents with an opportunity to be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of the school wide improvement plan by sharing the school’s academic plan during our annually planned parent workshop featuring, our school and how we can do more to become a better place for learning. Our PTA foster’s parental and community involvement within the school through varying efforts such as the quarterly “Reading is Fundamental (RIF)” and “Accelerated Reading (AR)” store opportunities along with the annual Swamp Stomp night.

Fulbright’s parents and students are afforded an opportunity to work with and/or communicate their concerns through the school’s Parent Facilitator. A suggestion/comment box for parents is conveniently located in the school’s Parent Center, which is located on the lower level of the building across from the Kindergarten pods and atop the front office counter. Parents may check out materials (e.g. parenting books, magazines and other informational materials regarding responsible parenting), use the computer to check grades, and visit educational websites in the school’s Media Center during school hours (8:00am-2:00pm). Other parent related brochures and pamphlets are available in the Parent Center with hours convenient to parents as well as community visitors. Informational ‘family’ packets are created annually and distributed to parents inclusive of a copy of the school’s parental involvement plan, survey for

volunteer interests, recommended roles for parents/ teachers/students and school, suggestions of ways parents can become involved in their child's education, parental involvement activities planned for the current school year and information about the system that will be used to allow parents and teachers to communicate (notes, phone calls, e-mail...). The school's handbook informs on the process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions; the LRSD handbook is also a viable resource that is taught to the students and made available to parents.

Fulbright engages parents in the annual evaluation of its' parental involvement efforts through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment questionnaire to be filled out by teachers, parents and school staff. The parental involvement committee, made up of teachers, parents and school staff determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement plan and make changes if warranted. While collecting evidence about satisfaction of previous decisions made by the parent involvement committee, the school's efforts to increase parental involvement will be a part of the evaluation, the survey will also collect specific information on the (1) growth in number of parents participating in workshops and meetings; (2) specific needs of parents; (3) effectiveness of specific strategies; and (4) engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth. Contact Kim Holland, Parent Facilitator at (501)447-4773

Fulbright also ask parents to fill out a parent interest survey prior to the end of the school year to get information from parents concerning the activities they feel will be most beneficial in the efforts to support their child(ren) academically. The results of the parent interest survey are used to plan the parental involvement activities for the upcoming school year. The activities that are suggested will be evaluated by the parents and staff as part of the annual parental involvement plan evaluation meeting, which is generally held during the month of May. At least two middle school recruitment opportunities (fall and spring) will be sponsored for parents and students compliments of the Parent Facilitator and School Counselor. Contact Kim Holland, Parent Facilitator at (501)447-4773

As the Fulbright administration and staff strive to make this a great school year, we challenge all parents and students to keep 'bursting with excitement' towards the next level!!!