

# Lamar Middle School Lamar, Arkansas



Parent & Family  
Engagement  
2020-21

Lamar Middle School  
Parental Involvement Plan  
2020-2021

**Mission Statement:**

- Recognizing that parents are full partners with schools in the education of children, Lamar School District encourages and expects parent/guardian and grandparent involvement in the school and, in particular, in the education of their own children. Keeping those expectations in mind, Lamar School District has developed and implemented the Parental Involvement Plan and will wholeheartedly work to endure its impact upon the success of our students.

**Lamar School District:** Jay Holland, Superintendent

**Grades:** 6-8

**Lamar Middle School Parental Involvement Committee Members:**

Lance Spence, Middle School Principal  
Kaylynn Holland, Federal Programs/Curr/Dist PI Facilitator  
Aimee Pearson, Middle School Parent Facilitator  
Jennifer Hignite, Reading Specialist  
Paula Holt, Math Specialist  
Paula Ober, Parent/Teacher  
Abby Pelts, Teacher  
Deana Cowell, Teacher  
Miranda Kenner, Wellness Director  
Donna Vorster, Middle School Media Specialist  
Chris Arnold, Middle School Counselor  
Stephanie Leeds, Parent/Para Pro  
Melissa Verwiebe, Parent  
Chris Schrimsher, Parent  
Erin Rowbotham, Parent  
Holly Sanderson, Parent

### **1: Jointly Developed**

Involve parents in the development of the Lamar Middle School Parent & Family policy & the school improvement plans

Establish expectations and objectives for meaningful involvement, reflecting the specific needs of students and families

Involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under Section 1116 of NCLB June 16, 2020.

Contact Person: Lance Spence, Middle School Principal

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Action: Quarterly Evaluation meetings

Timeline: June 16, 2020; October 27, 2020; January 20, 2021; April 1, 2021; June 9, 2021

Conduct an annual meeting June, 2021 to update policy for next year's Title I, Part A program.

Contact Person: Kaylynn Holland, Federal Programs

Contact Number: 479-885-3907

Timeline: June, 2020

Involve parents through an annual survey and review to improve school effectiveness. The Annual Survey to be used in the Annual Review (June, 2021) will be conducted April, 2021.

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: April, 2021 & June, 2021

Develop parent-community advisory committee to create a Parent & Family Engagement policy and implement parental involvement activities, as well as, disseminate information to the community to promote Parent & Family Engagement. Lamar Middle School will submit, to the District, who will submit to the ADE, the comments from parents who deem the schoolwide plan unsatisfactory.

Contact Person: Lance Spence, Middle School Principal

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: June 16, 2020 and ongoing

Lamar Middle School will perform the following tasks:

Develop Parent & Family Engagement policy

Offer flexible meeting times

Provide information to parents about the school's program, include parent information guide

Develop and use the School-Parent Compact

Provide training for parents in working with their child to improve academic achievement, to include training on the phone notification system in order to have real-time access to their child's attendance and achievement.

Contact Person: Lance Spence, Middle School Principal

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: June 16, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Convene annual school meeting to inform parents of their school's participation in the development of the Parent & Family Engagement policy and their right to be involved.

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: August 6, 2020 & September 9, 2020

### **2: Annual Title I Meeting**

Lamar Middle School will conduct an annual Title I meeting:

To inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation

To inform parents' of their rights under Title I

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: August 11, 2020 & September 14, 2020

### **3: Communications**

Lamar Middle School will provide a copy of the Lamar School District & Lamar Middle School Parent & Family Engagement Plan, and make available on District's website, for parents to view, as well as, provide a copy to each parent, included in the District's Student Handbook.

School Board approved July 13, 2020

Ensure, to the extent possible, that information is sent home in a language and form parents can understand.

Parent signatures will be obtained from each parent, acknowledging receipt of Lamar School District's Parent & Family Engagement Plan.

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: August 1, annually each year

Lamar Middle School will distribute an informational packet annually to include:

Description of Parent and Family Engagement plan; Recommended roles; Ways for a family to get involved in a variety of roles; Survey regarding volunteer interests; Schedule of activities planned throughout the school year; Regular, two-way, and meaningful system for parents/teachers to communicate; Offer meetings at various times (such as in the morning and evening);

Offer meetings in different formats (such as offered online and in-person group meetings as well as home visits or other types of individual meetings).

### **4: School-Parent Compact**

School staff, parents, and students will develop a school-parent-student compact. This compact will outline 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. All parents, students and teachers are asked to sign the compact. Compacts are shared with families at the start of school.

Contact Person: Lance Spence, Middle School Principal

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: July/August, 2020

Encourage parents to visit/volunteer at school by assisting staff in developing volunteer opportunities as well as training staff to encourage and build volunteer efforts.

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: August 13, 2020 – May 21, 2021

Lamar Middle School will continually address the importance of regular two-way, meaningful communication through:

- Two Parent-Teacher Conferences September 15, 2020 & February 4, 2021
- Frequent reports on progress September 2020, November 2020, February 2021, April 2021
- Parents are contacted by phone through a program called School Messenger. A message is recorded and a designated time is given for the computer to call the parents and replay the message.
- Teachers call the parents as needed.
- Parents with computer access may check their child's grades through a program called E-School **Home Access Center**. Parents may also use this program to email teachers. (HAC can be accessed through our home page at [lamarwarriors.org](http://lamarwarriors.org)).
- Parents may call the school's number after hours to hear a recording listing the homework for each grade/class.
- Reasonable access to staff
- Opportunities to volunteer – Volunteer Survey August 11, 2020; Volunteer Training August 14 2020 & January 8, 2021
- Observation of classroom activities September 14, 2020– May 25, 2020

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: August 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021

Lamar Middle School will provide resources and assistance for parents to learn about child development, child rearing practices, and academic strategies that are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their child.

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator and Jennifer Hignite, Reading Specialist

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: August 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021

Provide assistance to parents in understanding:

The challenging State academic standards; State and local academic assessments ; The requirements of Title I, Part A; How to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children

Contact Person: Jennifer Hignite, Reading Specialist and Paula Holt, Math Specialist  
Contact Number: 479-885-6511  
Timeline: August 13 2020, – May 25, 2021

Lamar Middle School will use volunteer surveys to compile a volunteer resource book listing interests and availability of volunteers; Provide training annually for volunteers – August 14, 2020 & January 8, 2021

Involve parents in a variety of roles

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator  
Contact Number: 479-885-6511  
Timeline: August 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021

### **5: Reservation of Funds**

Involve parents and family members of children receiving services under Title I in the decisions regarding how reserved funds are allotted for parent and family engagement activities.

Lamar School District does not currently receive \$500,000 or more in Title I allocation.

Contact Person: Kaylynn Holland, Federal Programs  
Contact Number: (479)885-3709  
Timeline: July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

### **6: Coordination of Services**

Outside speakers will provide parents with more information concerning ways to make their child's academic life more successful.

Contact Person: Lance Spence, Middle School Principal and Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator  
Contact Number: (479)885-6511  
Timeline: July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

Provide resources and assistance for parents to learn about child development, child rearing practices, and academic strategies that are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their child.

Provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation: role play and demonstration by trained volunteer, the use of and access to the Arkansas Division of Elementary & Secondary Education website tools for parents, assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation and other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Arkansas Division of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator and Chris Arnold, Middle School Counselor  
Contact Number: 479-885-6511  
Timeline: August 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021

Lamar Middle School will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs, activities, and strategies with college and career ready resources or organizations, parent resource centers, or other programs that encourage and support parents in fully participating; Calendar of activities attached

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: August 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021

To take advantage of community resources, the school shall consider recruiting alumni from the school to create an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement.

Lamar Middle School shall enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Association or organization that will foster parental and community involvement within the school and Leaders of said organization will be utilized in appropriate decisions.

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent/Teacher

Contact Number: (479)885-6511

Timeline: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Parents will be given a letter at open house or in registration packets asking for volunteers during the current school year. A list of activities is given along with ideas and request of ideas for parents to assist the school.

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator

Contact Number: (479) 885-6511

Timeline: August 11, 2020

Parents have the opportunity to meet their child's new teachers at open house which is held the week before school starts. Open House is held at night from 5:30-7:30pm.

Contact Person: Lance Spence, MS Principal

Contact Number: (479) 885-6511

Timeline: August 11, 2020

Lamar Middle School will engage parents in decision making about the allocation of its Title I, Part A funds for parental involvement and School Improvement

Contact Person: Lance Spence, MS Principal

Contact Number: (479) 885-6511

Timeline: June 16, 2020; October 27, 2020; January 20, 2021; April 1, 2021; June 9, 2021

### **7: Building Capacity of Parents**

Provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation: role play and demonstration by trained volunteer, the use of and access to the Department of Education website tools for parents, assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation and other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Department of Education

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator and Miranda Kenner, Wellness Director

Contact Number: (479) 885-6511

Timeline: August 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021

To promote and support responsible parenting, the school shall, as funds are available: Purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials regarding responsible parenting through the school library, advertise the current selection, and give parents the opportunity to borrow the materials for review.

Contact Person: Donna Vorster, Middle School Media Specialist and Aimee Pearson Parent Facilitator

Contact Number: (479) 885-6511

Timeline: July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

Provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation: role play and demonstration by trained volunteer, the use of and access to the Department of Education website tools for parents, assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation and other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Department of Education

Contact Person: Jennifer Hignite, Literacy Specialist and Miranda Kenner, Wellness Director

Contact Number: (479)885-6511

Timeline: August 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021

Provide information to participating parents in such areas as national, state, and local education goals, including parents' rights as defined in Title I, Part A.

Contact Person: Jennifer Hignite, Literacy Specialist

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: August 11, 2020 & September 14, 2020

Provide resources and assistance for parents to learn about child development, child rearing practices, and academic strategies that are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their child.

Contact Person: Chris Arnold, Middle School Counselor

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: August 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021

Provide assistance to parents in understanding:

The challenging State academic standards

State and local academic assessments

The requirements of Title I, Part A

How to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children

Contact Person: Jennifer Hignite, Reading Specialist and Paula Holt, Math Specialist

Contact Number: 479-885-6511

Timeline: August 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021

Involve parents through an annual survey to improve school effectiveness, to guide the evaluation process of School Improvement Plans.

Contact Person: Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator  
Contact Number: 479-885-6511  
Timeline: April 2021

Approve reasonable and necessary expenses associated with Parent & Family Engagement activities.  
Contact Person: Lance Spence, Middle School Principal  
Contact Number: 479-885-6511  
Timeline: August 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021

Provide materials and training, not otherwise available, to assist parents in supporting their child's academic achievement.  
Contact Person: Lance Spence, Middle School Principal and Aimee Pearson, Parent Facilitator  
Contact Number: 479-885-6511  
Timeline: August 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021

### **8: Building Capacity of School Staff**

Lamar School District will provide training through Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative; approved on-campus training; Arkansas IDEAS, to train teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in:

The value and utility of contributions of parents; That parents play an integral role in assisting student learning; How to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners; How to implement and coordinate parent programs; How to build ties between parents and the school; To welcome parents into the school and seek parental support and assistance; To provide information in a format, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand; To respond to parent requests for parent and family engagement activities; To recognize that a parent is a full partner by including in the school handbook the school's process for resolving parent concerns

Contact Person: Lance Spence, Middle School Principal  
Contact Number: 479-885-6511  
Timeline: June 1, 2020 – May 31, 2021

The State Board of Education's Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts shall require no fewer than two (2) hours of professional development for teachers designed to enhance the understanding of effective parental involvement strategies. No fewer than three (3) hours of professional development for administrators designed to enhance understanding of effective parent involvement strategies and the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.

Contact Person: Kaylynn Holland, Federal Programs/Curr/Dist PI Facilitator  
Contact Number: (479) 885-3907  
Timeline: Required 2019-20 SY - 100% of faculty & administrators met requirement

### **Lamar School District Goal:**

Lamar School District will engage in effective, on-going two-way communication with Families & Community to Improve Reading Levels K-12, as measured by growth in the five family plan sections from August 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021.

Identified Key Elements:

- Use open, respectful, and honest two-way communication
- Offer and use a variety of communication tools
- Support families to assist their child(ren) with developmentally appropriate learning (tutorials, ideas, articles)

Resources/Actions to help achieve the goal:

- R.I.S.E. Arkansas Short Promo Video  
Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ojEcad2elo&feature=youtu.be> resource
- “Arkansas Guide for Promoting Family Engagement “ resource
- 5 Ways to Prevent Summer Slide: [https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/ways-to-prevent-the-summer-slide\\_us\\_5b51dd08e4b0b15aba8dfe06](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/ways-to-prevent-the-summer-slide_us_5b51dd08e4b0b15aba8dfe06) resource
- Each School will provide resources and support to ensure student achievement & improving Reading Levels K-12

Theory of Action:

If School Administrators, Faculty, Students, Parents & Community members, use open, respectful and honest two-way communication, through the use of a variety of communication tools; supporting families to assist their child or children with developmentally appropriate learning, through the use of tutorials, ideas, articles, etc...Then families will have the support needed to engage in their child’s education, ensuring student achievement and increasing student reading levels.

Timeline: June 1, 2020 – May 31, 2021

Action: The District will meet with each School’s School Improvement Team & Parent Engagement Team, quarterly September 14, 2020, October 27, 2020; January 20, 2021; April 1, 2021; June 9, 2021. The quarterly meetings will analyze data, including but not limited to, BOY, MOY, & EOY reading data; ACT Aspire Summative & Interim Assessments to measure Student growth in Reading & effectiveness of Reading instruction, programs, activities and Parent Engagement. The Building teams will review fund allocations; supplemental programs and activities effectiveness in Reading Improvement & Increasing Parent Engagement.

Monitor: School Meeting /Parent Activity Sign-in Sheets ; K-12 , BOY, MOY, & EOY reading data; ACT Aspire Summative Reading Score; ACT Aspire Interim Reading Scores; STAR Reading; RTI Progress Monitoring.

### **Lamar School Student/Parent Compact**

In order for your child to be successful in school and learn to the best of their ability a strong voluntary commitment must be made by individuals to themselves and to others.

#### **As a Student ... I Promise To...**

- \*\*\* attend school every day
- \*\*\* be on time
- \*\*\* bring pencil, paper, books and be ready to learn
- \*\*\* complete and turn in classroom and homework assignments
- \*\*\* ask for help when I need it
- \*\*\* do my best work in school
- \*\*\* respect and cooperate with others

#### **As a Parent/Guardian ... I Promise To...**

- \*\*\* see that my child attends school every day
- \*\*\* see that he/she is on time
- \*\*\* praise and encourage my child each day
- \*\*\* help my child learn to respect the school staff and the cultural differences of others
- \*\*\* provide a quiet place for my child to study and read
- \*\*\* attend all parent/teacher conferences
- \*\*\* check my child's backpack every night and tell my child what I like about his/her work
- \*\*\* work with my child on areas that need improvement because I want my child to succeed

#### **As a Teacher/Staff/Administrator... I Promise To...**

- \*\*\* show that I care about all students
- \*\*\* have high expectations for myself, students, teachers and staff
- \*\*\* communicate and work with families to support students' learning
- \*\*\* provide a safe environment for learning
- \*\*\* respect the cultural differences of students and their families
- \*\*\* encourage students and parents with regular student progress reports
- \*\*\* be patient and understanding

**2020-2021 Lamar Middle School Parent and Family  
Engagement Activities**

Activity	Timeline	Contact Person	Location	Evidence
Heat Awareness	July 1, 2020	Brett Sampley	Available online through AAA on Dragonfly; link on <a href="http://www.lamarwarriors.org">www.lamarwarriors.org</a>	Dragonfly
Understanding Blended Learning Overview for Parents	August 12, 2020 10-11 AM 1-2PM 5-6 PM	Kaylynn Holland	Lamar School District  Board Room	Sign in sheet
Book Talks on FB	Monthly 2020-21	Donna Vorster/ Aimee Pearson	Facebook	Number of people engaged in post
Open House	August 11, 2020 5:30 – 7:30 PM	Aimee Pearson	Middle School	Sign in sheet
Title I Meeting	August 11, 2020 7:30-8:00PM; September 14, 2020 5:30-6:00 PM	Lance Spence	Lamar School District  Board Room	Sign in sheet
Volunteer Sign Up	August 11, 2020 5:30-7:30 PM	Aimee Pearson	Lamar Middle School	Sign in sheet
Parent Home Access center Training	August 11, 2020 5:30 -7:30 PM	Lance Spence	Lamar Middle School	Sign in Sheet
Volunteer Training	August 14, 2020 & January 8, 2021 10:00-11:00 AM 1:00-2:00 PM 5:00-6:00PM	Aimee Pearson/ Lance Spence	Lamar School District  Board Room	Sign in sheet
Types of Assessments and Overview for Parents	September 9, 2020 10AM-11AM 1 PM – 2 PM 5 PM- 6 PM	Kaylynn Holland	Lamar School District  Board Room	Sign in sheet

Parent Teacher Conference	September 15, 2020 3:30-7:30PM	Lance Spence	Elementary cafeteria	Sign in sheet
Parent Home Access center Training	September 15, 2020 3:30-7:30PM	Lance Spence	Lamar Middle School	Sign in Sheet
Reading Strategies for Parents	September 30, 2020 10:00-11:00 AM 1:00 – 2:00 PM 5:00 – 6:00 PM	Kaylynn Holland	Lamar Middle School	Sign in sheet
Quarterly Review, School Improvement, Parent and Family Engagement	October 27, 2020 January 20, 2021 April 1, 2021 June 9, 2021 @ 10:00 AM	Jennifer Hignite Paula Holt	Lamar Middle School	Sign In sheet
Safe Talk	Fall 2020	Chris Arnold	Lamar Middle School	Sign in sheet
Literacy Night	Fall 2020	Jennifer Hignite	Lamar Middle School	Sign in sheet
Wellness/Health Night	Fall 2020	Miranda Kenner	Lamar Middle School	Sign in sheet
STEAM Night	Fall 2020	Aimee Pearson	Lamar Middle School	Sign in sheet
Volunteer Sign Up	September 15, 2020 3:30 – 7:00 PM	Aimee Pearson	Lamar Middle School	Sign in sheet
Parent's Guide to the ACT Aspire Summative & how to help your child do their best	March 9, 2021 10:00-11:00 AM 1:00 – 2:00 PM 5:00 – 6:00 PM	Kaylynn Holland	Lamar School District Board Room	Sign in sheet
WITS (Writers in the Schools)	Spring 2021	Jennifer Hignite	Lamar Middle School	Survey
Parent Teacher Conference	February 4, 2021 3:30-7:00 PM	Lance Spence	Lamar Elementary Cafeteria	Sign in sheet
Parent Home Access Center Training	February 4, 2021 3:30-7:00 PM	Lance Spence	Lamar Middle School	Sign in Sheet
Volunteer Sign Up	February 4, 2021 3:30 – 7:00 PM	Aimee Pearson	Lamar Middle School	Sign in sheet

<p>Health &amp; Wellness Parent/Community Engagement Meetings</p>	<p>September 9, 2020 October 14, 2020 November 11, 2020 December 9, 2020 January 13, 2021 February 10, 2021 March 10, 2021 April 14, 2021 May 12, 2021</p>	<p>Aimee Pearson Lance Spence</p>	<p>Lamar School District  Board Room  Sign in sheet</p>
<p>Parent &amp; Family Engagement</p>	<p>April 1, 2021</p>	<p>Aimee Pearson</p>	<p>Facebook Survey</p>