

Arkansas
School Parent Involvement Policy

GRAVETTE HIGH SCHOOL
325 LION DRIVE SOUTH
GRAVETTE, AR 72736
479-787-4180

District: Gravette

School Improvement Status: N/A

Grade Levels: 9th-12th

Parental Involvement Coordinator: Janna Sharp

Title I School: No

Percent of free and reduced lunch: 40 %

GHS Committee Members:

Ian Galloway- Teacher

Normal Mitchell- AD/ Parent

Sherri Webb-Teacher

Vic Clouse- Counselor

Shannon Mitchell- Counselor/ Parent

Teri Finnell- Distance Learning

Sheryl McAfee- Parent

1. List various communication strategies used in your school to provide additional information to parents and to increase parental involvement in supporting classroom instruction.

Janna Sharp, Parental Involvement Coordinator, will distribute a monthly newsletter to parents. The newsletter includes parenting tips related to school achievement such as homework tips, organizational skills, and study skills. If you do not have Internet access to view the newsletters online, please contact Mrs. Sharp at 479-787-4193 for a paper copy. The school will create a main high school Web site called School Fusion to house classroom Web sites for each teacher. Homework assignments and pertinent classroom information will be available on classroom Web sites. Contact individual teachers on their

pages or call the main office at 479-787-4180. Also, parents can access their child's grades on Pinnacle Gradebook using a PIN number they received at the beginning of the school year by calling Janna Sharp at 479-787-4193. Parents may use e-mail to communicate with members of the school staff. Contact JoEllen Hastings, Principal at 479-787-4180 for more information on our staff. The school will send parents a parent-friendly letter in the first report card that explains their child's test results and standardized test scores. Please contact Shannon Mitchell, GHS Counselor, at 479-787-4185 if you do not receive your information. The school will post notices in school facilities and public buildings, and provide information for local newspapers and radio stations about parent workshops and meetings. If you would like additional information about parent meetings, please contact Janna Sharp, GHS Parental Involvement Coordinator at 479-787-4193.

2. List the proposed parent meeting, conferences and activities regularly throughout this year and the dates providing flexible meeting times that you have planned to increase parental involvement and build staff and parent capacity to engage in these types of efforts.

These meetings will include parent training sessions to help parents understand how to enhance their child's education. Our Career Action Plan Meetings are March 29, 2012 4:00 to 7:00 PM and on March 30, 2012 8:00 to noon. The meetings will be held at various times during the day or evening to better accommodate parents. Contact Shannon Mitchell, GHS Counselor, at 787-4180 or your child's CAP Advisor for Career Action Plan questions. The school will hold a freshman orientation for parents at 8th grade level. Contact Janna Sharp or Shannon Mitchell for questions about 8th Grade Orientation at 787-4180. The spring freshman orientation date is still to be determined. Teachers will hold conferences individually with parents of children in their classrooms. Parents will be given a summary of the student's test scores and an explanation of the interventions teachers are using to assist the child in reaching achievement goals during our fall and spring Parent Teacher Conferences on September 20, 2011 and March 29, 2011. After first visit with your child's classroom teacher, then Contact Shannon Mitchell at 787-4185 for specific grading questions. Parents will be asked to engage in discussion of how they can support these efforts. Parents can contact individual teachers at any time at 479-787-4180. During our Annual Open house on August 11, 2011 parents were given special information to provide an explanation of the statewide assessment system, standards, and other accountability measures. Mrs. Hastings, GHS Principal, is the contact person for our Annual Report to the Public. The school will encourage parents in the following types of roles and activities to increase their involvement and support for student learning:

1. Library
2. Tutoring
3. Book fair helpers
4. Fieldtrips
5. Open House
6. Fundraisers
7. Copying
8. Teacher errands
9. Various committees: ACSIP, Parental Involvement, Miss GHS Pageant, and etc.

Any parent or community member interested in volunteering can contact Janna Sharp, PI Coordinator at 479-787-4193 or janna.sharp@gravetteschools.net.

3. How will your school provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities?

The school will provide a list of volunteer opportunities and solicit ideas for other types of volunteer efforts during our Annual Open House on August, 11 2011. Janna Sharp, PI Coordinator will explain the requirements to parents and encourage them to become involved in the school. The school will work with Gravette Middle School to help provide a smooth transition from one school to the next by raising parent awareness of procedures and related activities. The school will host special orientation programs for parents and students to help with the transition. Parents will have the opportunity to meet the new teachers at the end of the school year. Contact Shannon Mitchell, GHS Counselor or Janna Sharp, PI Coordinator for more information at 479-787-4180.

STATE REQUIREMENT – 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. Janna Sharp, PI Coordinator mailed an information home to each parent on October 20, 2011. If you did not receive the information or would like more, please contact 479-787-4193.

STATE REQUIREMENT- (Staff Development) 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 understand 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. Janna Sharp, PI Coordinator provide 2 hours of Parental Involvement Training to all staff on August 8, 2011 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

4. How will your school work with parents to create a School-Parent-Compact?

Since Gravette High School is not a Title I school, we do not distribute a School-Parent-Compact.

5. How will your school provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of the school wide school improvement plan, and the Annual Title I Meeting to engage them in the decision-making processes regarding the school's Title I, Part A, Program?

The school will involve parents on school improvement planning committees. Mrs. Sharp will use the GHS Parent Listserve to invite parents to participate in the school improvement planning meeting. To support this process, the school will offer both school staff and parents training on how to contribute to this process in a meaningful way. Contact Janna Sharp, PI Coordinator at 479-787-4193 for more information. The next meeting is set for May 29, 2012 at 1:00 PM.

STATE REQUIREMENT – 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. JoEllen Hastings and Janna Sharp are the contacts for the alumni advisory commission at 479-787-4180.

STATE REQUIREMENT - The school shall enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Association or organization that will foster parental and community involvement within the school. Shannon Mitchell, GHS PTO President, may be contacted at 479-787-4185.

6. How will your school provide resources for parents?

Parents may check out materials, use the computer to check grades, and visit educational Web sites. Parents will be encouraged to view the Parent Involvement Plan located in the parent resource center or media center. The school will open the resource center at hours that are convenient to parents. The Parent Resource Center is open from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM every day and by request any evening. Contact Janna Sharp at 479-787-4193 to attend any evening. Create, maintain, and promote a parent center. For a list of resources in the GHS Parent Resource Center, visit http://library.ghs.gravetteschools.net/modules/locker/files/get_group_file.phtml?fid=11557565&gid=2071892&sessionid=2da89e863cfa8a8cf889029638c84675 or contact Janna Sharp at 479-787-4193.

STATE REQUIREMENT - The school will distributed Informational packets each year that includes 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 GHS Informational Kits are distributed at our Open House on August 11, 2011. Janna Sharp, PI Coordinator is responsible for disseminating the Informational Kits. If you would like more information, please call 479-787-4193 or email janna.sharp@gravetteschools.net.

STATE REQUIREMENT - 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. Janna Sharp, GHS Library Media Specialist, purchases new items for the Parent Center. Please contact her at 479-787-4193 for your suggestions.

STATE REQUIREMENT - Include in the school's policy handbook the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions. For questions or concerns, contact JoEllen Hastings at 479-787-4180.

STATE REQUIREMENT - The principal of each school in a school district shall designate (1) certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator. Janna Sharp serves at the GHS PI Coordinator. Contact her at anytime at 479-787-4193.

7. How will your school engage parents in the evaluation of your parental involvement efforts?

The school will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the Parental Involvement Plan through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by teachers, parents and school staff. The committee, made up of teachers, parents and school staff, will determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement plan and make changes if warranted. While collecting evidence about satisfaction with the program and 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. The next assessment will be next July or early August before school starts next year. Part of the comprehensive needs assessment will be conducted again at our Annual Open House next fall. The 2011 Open House was August 11, 2011. If you would like to be a part of this evaluation process, please contact Janna Sharp at 479-787-4193.

8. How will your school use the parent interest surveys to select, plan, and implement parental involvement activities that will be offered throughout the year?

The school Parental Involvement Committee along with Janna Sharp, PI Coordinator will ask parents to fill out a parent interest survey at registration or at the beginning of each school year to get information from parents concerning the activities they feel will be most beneficial in the efforts to support their child academically. Contact Janna Sharp at 479-787-4193 to serve as a parent representative on the PI Committee. The school will use the results of the parent interest survey will be used to plan the parental involvement activities for the year. Janna Sharp and the other committee members listed above will utilize these results to determine the parental involvement activities that will be offered to GHS Parents. Since the survey will be given on August 11, 2011, the committee will meet and plan at 3:30 PM on August 12, 2011. The annual review will be conducted by the PI Committee during late July or early August of 2011. Janna Sharp, PI Coordinator will facilitate this meeting.

STATE REQUIREMENT – Sponsor seminars to inform the parents of high school students about how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selection, career planning, and preparation for postsecondary opportunities.

9. When will your school plan the Annual Title I Meeting that must be conducted separately? (It CANNOT be held in conjunction with any other meetings or activities.)

Since Gravette High School is not a Title I school, we do not conduct an Annual Title I Meeting.