

Little Rock School District
Watson Elementary
2016-2017 Parent Involvement Plan

School Mission: In collaboration with parents and the community, Watson Elementary faculty and staff will provide every student with a positive learning environment that develops independent learners and problem solvers through effective instruction and appropriate assessments.

Principal: Stephanie Walker

Parent Facilitator(s): Miranda Mitchell

Parent Coordinator: Tagel Muqtasid

Watson is a Title I school with 96% of our students on free and reduced lunch. We are a focus school.

Parent Involvement Committee Members

1. Stephanie Walker	Principal
2. Beverly Jones	Assistant Principal
2. Miranda Mitchel	Parent Facilitator
3. Tagel Muqtasid	Parent Coordinator
4. Eileen McMurray	School Counselor
5. Tracy Debro	Teacher
6. Angela Socarro	Teacher
7. Casie Perkins	Teacher
8. Shannon Adams	Teacher
9. Carol Jackson	Media Specialist
10. Teresa Gilbert	Paraprofessional/PTA President
11. Elva Mejia	Parent
12. Angela Austin	Parent
13. Elise Jackson	Community Volunteer

1) Watson Elementary will communicate with parents in the following ways to increase parent involvement and to support classroom instruction by: Miranda Mitchell- Parent Facilitator email: miranda.mitchell@lrsd.org (501)-447-6844

- Sending monthly school newsletters in both English and Spanish home to parents about school activities by: Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- Posting information regarding parental involvement on stands located at the entrance of Watson's building by: Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- Teachers sending weekly folders home with students regarding curriculum standards, grades, and behavior reports by: Classroom Teachers.
- Sending home Ed-line information so parents will be able to access grades. Parents will be advised to contact our technology specialist Ms. Shari McClinton at 447-6833 with questions.
- Communicating with parents through email, telephone, Watson website and Watson's Facebook page by: Ms. Shari McClinton at 447-6833.
- Sending home a monthly Home/School Connection newsletter and Tips for Reading Success by Tagel Muqtasid Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- Sending home a parental Involvement survey to assess parent's opinion on a variety of topics affecting the school environment and parental involvement by: Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.

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2) Watson Elementary will plan the following meetings to increase parent involvement, build staff and parent capacity by: Miranda Mitchell-Parent Facilitator email: miranda.mitchell@lrsd.org (501)-447-6844 & Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator email:Tagel.Muqtasid@lrsd.org (501) 447-6855

- Providing opportunities for parents and grandparents to eat lunch with the students at “Grandparent’s Day” (September 14, 2016) by: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844 & Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- Conducting two (2) state mandated parent conferences a year, one per semester, with each parent of every student and having translators to assist in the conferences with parents who do not speak English. Parents will receive scores, student work and a summary of interventions being used to assist the child in reaching his/her achievement goals (AIPs and IRIs) (October 13 and 14, 2016 and February 20 and 21 2017).
- Hosting Math and Literacy nights for Parents to come to Watson and learn different strategies from either a team of math teachers or a team of literacy teachers or from community speakers (November 15, 2016 and March 14, 2017) by: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844, Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- Hosting Pastries for Parents for those to come to Watson and learn different parenting strategies for their children (Watson Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration, September 30, 2016; Watson Black History Month Celebration February 24, 2016 by: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844; Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855 & Paul McCowan -ESL Coordinator 447-6862.
- Hosting Multiplication Madness Contest, (March 31, 2017) _____ Math Facilitator & Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844.
- Hosting a Mother’s Day Luncheon (May 12, 2017) by: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844 & Tagel Muqtasid -Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- Hosting a “Getting Ready for Testing” Parent Night – Thursday April 06, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m. by: Paul McCowan Testing Coordinator-447-6862; Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844 & Tagel Muqtasid -Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- ACT Test “Kick-Off” Parade for Watson’s Students (Friday April 7, 2017 @9:30 am) by: Eileen McMurray-Counselor-447-6828
- Conduct two (2) Annual Title 1 Meeting for parents to assess a description/explanation of school curriculum, information on (September 30, 2016 and May 24, 2017) by: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844 & Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- Providing English classes to our Spanish speaking parents once a week on Thursday at Watson Elementary from 1:00-2:00p.m. by: Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855
- Providing Spanish classes to our English speaking parents once a week on Tuesday at Watson Elementary from 1:00-2:00 pm by: Tagel Muqtasid -Parent Coordinator-447-6855
- Computer Classes for parents/guardians on Friday at Watson Elementary from 1:00-2:00pm by: Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855 and Elise Jackson-Community Volunteer.

3) Watson Elementary will provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities by:

- Print in our School Newsletter monthly opportunities to be involved (parents and community members) to support our curriculum and our students by spending time at the school. By: Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- Give instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, 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. By: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844 & Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.

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- Following the state guidelines on providing 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 that 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. By: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844.

4) Watson will work with the school parental involvement committee in updating the School-Parent-Compact.

- The committee, which includes parents, will decide on the actions in which all stakeholders will be responsible. By: Stephanie Walker- Principal-447-6802
- The compact will specifically state the responsibilities each parent, student, school staff, and administrators will do to improve student academic achievement and will disseminate the information to all parents to ensure that every compact is signed. All parties will be responsible for signing the compact. By: Stephanie Walker - Principal & Tagel Muqtasid- Parent Coordinator-447-6855.

5) Watson will 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 1, Part A Program.

- Parents will serve on school improvement planning committees. 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. By: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844.
- Have an INDISTAR plan meeting which includes parents input as far as implementing actions into the plan. By: Stephanie Walker- Principal-447-6802
- Have a meeting with the Action Team committee. This committee is the same as the parental involvement committee. This team will meet once a quarter. By: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844.
- Take advantage of community resources; the school shall consider student council input from the school to create an advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement by: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844 & Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- Support the activities and involvement of the Parent Teacher Association. By: Teresa Gilbert- PTA President.

6) Watson will provide resources pertaining to parenting skills

- Parents may check out materials, use the computer to check grades, and visit educational Web sites. Parents will be encouraged to view the Title I Plan located in the parent resource center or media center. A suggestion sheet will also be available for parental input. The school will open the resource center at hours that are convenient to parents. By: Tagel Muqtasid- Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- Providing and distributing informational packets each year that includes a copy of the Watson'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) by: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844 & Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- Watson will purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials each semester regarding responsible parenting through the school library, advertise the current selection, and give parents the

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opportunity to borrow the materials for review by: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844 & Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.

- Allowing parents to visit the parent center during the designated hours that the parent center is open 8:00 am-12:00pm and 12:30-3:00pm. By: Tagel Muqtasid, Parent Coordinator-447-6855
- Included in the school's policy handbook will contain the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions. By: Stephanie Walker- Principal-447-6802.
- The principal at Watson shall designate certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator by: Stephanie Walker- Principal-447-6802.
- Watson will send home Refrigerator Curriculums and post them in the parent center. By: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844.

7) Watson will engage parents in the evaluation of the parental involvement plan by:

- Engage parents in the annual evaluation of the Title I, Part a Program's parental involvement efforts through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by teachers, parents and school staff. The Title I 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. By: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844 & Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.

8) Watson will use the parent interest surveys to select, plan, and implement parental involvements activities that will be offered throughout the year by:

- Asking parents to fill out a parent interest survey during the first semester 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 by: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844 & Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- Using the results of the parent interest survey will be used to plan the parental involvement activities for the year by: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844, Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855.
- Evaluating the activities that were suggested by the parents at the end of the year as part of the annual parental involvement plan evaluation, along with the parental involvement committee by: Miranda Mitchell -Parent Facilitator-447-6844, Tagel Muqtasid-Parent Coordinator-447-6855 & Stephanie Walker-Principal-447-6802.

9) Watson will hold the Annual Title 1 Meeting:

- Conduct two (2) Annual Title I Meeting on September 30, 2016 and May 24, 2017 for parents of our students separate from any other meetings or activities to ensure that they have ample time to provide a description/explanation of school curriculum, information on forms of academic assessments used to measure students progress and information on proficiency level students are expected to meet. An agenda, sign-in sheet and minutes for this meeting will serve to support the meeting and file in the school's office. Stephanie Walker-Principal- 447-6802.

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The National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS) NNPS invites schools to use research-based approaches to organize and sustain excellent programs of family and community involvement that will increase student success in school.

Watson Elementary collaborates and supports the LRSD Southwest Schools Cluster Team. Partnership Programs focus on the six "keys to involvement" identified by educational researchers as the critical components of home/school/community connections.

Six Types of Involvement: Keys to Successful Partnerships

1. **Parenting**: Assist families with parenting skills and setting home conditions to support children as students. Also, assist schools to better understand families.

2. **Communicating**: Conduct effective communications from school-to-home and from home-to-school about school programs and student progress.

3. **Volunteering**: Organize volunteers and audiences to support the school and students. Provide volunteer opportunities in various locations and at various times.

4. **Learning at Home**: Involve families with their children on homework and other curriculum-related activities and decisions.

5. **Decision Making**: Include families as participants in school decisions, and develop parent leaders and representatives.

6. **Collaborating with the Community**: Coordinate resources and services from the community for families, students, and the school, and provide services to the community.