

Little Rock Central High School



1500 Park Street

Little Rock, Arkansas 72202

Main Office: 501-447-1400

www.lrcentralhigh.org

Fax: 501-447-1401

PARENT INFORMATION HANDBOOK 2015-2016



Colors: Black and Gold

Mascot: Tiger

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Nancy Rousseau, Principal	447-1402	Principal's Secretary	447-1432
Attendance	447-1411	Wellness Center	447-1428
Nurse Perkins (9 th /11 th)	447-1429	Nurse Thrower (10 th /12 th)	447-1405
Bookkeeper	447-1424	Quigley Stadium	447-8091
Custodian	447-1408	Registrar	447-1423
Field House	447-8091	School Resource Officer (SRO)	447-1435

LRCH 2015-2016 Administrative Team Assignments

Ms. Regina Ezell Extension 7-1477

- Assistant Principal of Instruction
- Recruitment Coordinator – Job Shadowing and Tours
- Attendance Coordinator
- Special Events and Special Programs
- School Calendar

Donna Muldrew Extension 7-1412

- 12th Grade (A-Z) Administrator
- Free Lunch Program
- Tardy Policy Facilitator

Beth Davis Extension 7-1413

- 11th Grade (A-Z) Administrator
- Junior Sponsor
- Textbook Coordinator

Donald Richardson Extension 7-1409

- 10th Grade (A-J) Administrator
- Emergency Drills
- School Lockers
- Sophomore Sponsor

Earnest McGee Extension 7-1596

- 10th Grade (K-Z) Administrator
- Transportation Coordinator (non-athletic)
- Assistant Athletic Director

Anthony Hobbs Extension 7-1451

- 9th Grade (A-J) Administrator
- Athletic Director (Athletic Transportation Inclusive)
- SIP Supervisor

Gregory Hodges Extension 7-1410

- 9th Grade (K-Z) Administrator
- Parent Facilitator
- School Based Intervention Team Coordinator (SBIT)
- Assistant Transportation

Guidance Counselors	Grade	Last Name	Telephone
TBA	9 th -12 th	A-Carr	447-1404
Pam Langston	9 th -12 th	Cart-F	447-1414
Erica Moore	9 th -12 th	G-I	447-1416
Nancy Keyes	9 th -12 th	J-Mass	447-1601
Lequieta Grayson	9 th -12 th	Mat-Pil	447-1586
Monique Williamson	9 th -12 th	Pin-Tal	447-1597
Mr. Kim Williams	9 th -12 th	Tam-Z	447-1608
Kim Brasfield	Career Coach		447-1461

** (Refer to school's website for guidance counselor's email address)

Technology Specialist

Allen Morton School and Parent Assistance 447-1431

Teachers

If you would like to contact any of our teachers, their phone numbers are on the school's website.

www.lrcentralhigh.org

LRCHS Student Council

Tahmadiyya Dawson, Student Body President	Mohammed Mumtaz, Student Body- VP
Anni Xu, Secretary	Erin Snelling, Sr. Senator
Sr. Senator- Alex Wang	Sr. Representative- Hailye Williams
David Xiang, Sr. Representative	C. J. Fowler, Jr. Senator
Taylor Lovelace, Jr. Senator	Zoie Moore, Jr. Representative
Payton Williams, Jr. Representative	Emma Jewell, Soph. Senator
Erica Nash, Soph. Senator	Annie Knight, Soph. Representative
Erin Farmer, Soph. Representative	



Senior Class Officers

Kristian Stephens, President Micah Bernard, Vice-President Tamara Kuykendall, Secretary

Little Rock Central High School
PARENT STUDENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION
(PTSA)

Leadership Positions

Executive Board

President	Nancy Cole	ncole@13ark.com
President	Elect Nicole Williams	nwsippial@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Amy Bryant	amygloverbryant@gmail.com
Corresponding Secretary	Fred Brown	fredibrown3@gmail.com
Treasurer	Mary Grayson	marygrayson01@gmail.com

Committee Leadership

PTA Council Representative	Elicia Kennedy	eliciakennedy@sbcglobal.net
Student Council Representative	Tahmadiyya Dawson	TBA
Alumni Association Representative	Millie Shumard	MShumard@aol.com
Legislative Liaison	Sudha Bande	sribande@gmail.com
School Library Liaison	Stella Cameron	stella.cameron@lrsd.org
PTSA Membership	Nancy Delacerda	ndelacerda@comcast.net
PTSA Meeting Hospitality	TBA	TBA
Attendance Office Volunteers	Shelley Gentry	scgentry@sbcglobal.net
Guidance Office Volunteers	Shelley Gentry	scgentry@sbcglobal.net
Main Office Volunteers	Shelley Gentry	scgentry@sbcglobal.net
School Tour Coordinator	Shelley Gentry	scgentry@sbcglobal.net
Volunteer Coordinator/Schedule <i>Pick-ups (9th Grade Orientation, Upper Classmen, 1st Day School)</i>	TBA	TBA
Partners in Education Liaison	Susanne Keller	susannembrandon@yahoo.com

PTA Reflections	Lisa Hope	lbhope@powersar.com
Senior Class Parent Liaison	Ursula White	urwhite13@gmail.com
VIPS	Natash Graf	ngraf@13ark.com
Art Activities	Jennifer Ray	jenalf213@yahoo.com
Science Fair Judges Liaison	TBA	TBA
Science Fair Judges' Snacks Coordinator	Beverly English	jerebev@comcast.net
Student Testing Snacks	Tammy Gridley	btgridley@comcast.net
AP Testing Snack Delivery	Jennifer Ronnel	jronnel@comcast.net
Health Fair Snack Coordinator	Cynthia Ross	50cross50@gmail.com
PTSA Grants	Alison Hitt	wchitt@att.net
Project Graduation	Heather Thompson DeLisa Shaw	hthompson99@gmail.com delisa782000@yahoo.com
Building & Grounds	Jacquelyn Poindexter	missionandpurpose@gmail.com
Awards/Nominations (PTA Council, State PTA, ViPS)	Stella Cameron Andrea Dixon	stella.cameron@lrsd.org andreawdison@gmail.com
<u>Staff Appreciation</u>		
Faculty Meeting Hospitality	Angie Gatlin Leah Greenfield	angie.gatlin@stephens.com greenfields@comcast.net
Staff Appreciation/Hospitality	Martha Sims	mlogansims@sbcglobal.net
<u>Registration/Open Houses</u>		
LRSD Check-In (August)	TBA	TBA
Parent Open House	Heather Thompson Janna Knight	tsthompson@sbcglobal.net daknight6@comcast.net
LRSD "Check-Us-Out" Days	TBA	TBA
Recruitment Open House- Hospitality	Alison Nicholson Scarlett Burks	alison.nicholson@sbcglobal.net scarlett.burks@acxiom.com

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PARENT STUDENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTSA)

Description of Leadership Positions

PTA Council Representative - Attends the monthly Little Rock PTA Council meetings (historically the second Tuesday of each month). Reports back at the PTSA meetings any information appropriate or related to PTSA business. *[Throughout the school year]*

Legislative Liaison – Reports at our PTSA meetings any activities being discussed and/or passed during the Arkansas Legislative Session that affect our schools/students/families. *[Throughout the school year]*

Alumni Liaison – Attends PTSA meetings and reports back and forth activities to the Alumni Organization. *[Throughout the school year]*

PTSA Membership – Coordinates selling of PTSA memberships for LRCH. Memberships are sold beginning at August Check-In, during Open Houses and other any other events of choice where parents and students are gathered -- mainly during the fall semester. Also encourage teachers to join by attending (or sending a representative to) an after-school monthly Teacher Meeting. PTSA Membership works with the Treasurer to complete required State and National PTA Membership reports. *[Concentrated in fall semester, minimal in early second semester]*

PTSA Meeting Hospitality – Organizes and provides “snack” type foods/water for each PTSA meeting held in the library. *[Throughout the school year for 7 scheduled meetings; usually at least 2 volunteers]*

Main Office/Attendance Office/ Guidance Office Volunteers Coordinator – Gathers and organizes volunteers for the three offices. Coordinator maintains an overall schedule of volunteers as well as a “substitute list”. PTSA provides 2 volunteers for each of 2 shifts during every school day. PTSA also provides several weekly volunteers in the Guidance Office, as well as special-request support in the Attendance office. *[Concentrated at beginning of school year, some maintenance during the year]*

Volunteer Coordinator for: *[Secures volunteers a few weeks before school starts – from lists of volunteers who signed up during August “Check-in” and oversees the volunteers at each event.]*

9th Grade Orientation – These volunteers help pass out schedules at the end of 9th Grade Orientation. *[Two days before school starts-afternoon]*

Schedule Pickup--Upperclassmen – These volunteers help passes out schedules during the schedule pickup for upperclassmen. *[Day before school starts]*

Schedule Pickup –1st Day of School - These volunteers help pass out schedules for approximately one hour in the morning on the first day of school *[in auditorium].*

Partners In Education Liaison - Liaisons between our school and businesses/entities who provide various kinds of support for our school. Liaison coordinates recognition of these donations in writing, on our website and at PTSA meetings. *[Throughout the year, concentrated at beginning when re-establishing relationships]*

Senior Class Parent Liaison – Works with the senior class sponsor and officers to help coordinate parent volunteers where needed. *[Liaison is parent of a senior student.]*

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Art Activities - Works with LRCH Art Department for Artwork recognition and area Art Shows.

Reflections – Coordinates the PTA Reflections program for our school. Reflection advertises the theme and contest guidelines. Gathers entries in each category and has them judged at the school level. Forwards winning entries to the State PTA for judging. Reflection presents local and state awards to students at the April PTSA meeting. [October/November-- Advertising and posters, December/January Contest held and judging, April – Awards given]

ViPS (Volunteers in Public Schools) – Gathers, calculates/totals and generates report of all ViPS hours given at Central HS. (Totals are for March 1 through end of February each school year.) [Report is due to LRSD ViPS department Mid-March]

Science Fair Judges Liaison – Works with the Science Fair Coordinator/Teacher (who secures the judges) to maintain the spreadsheet of volunteer judges. Contact judges and coordinate details for the science fair. [December/ January/ February]

Science Fair Snack Coordinator – Organizes volunteers to provide snacks for the judges on science fair judging day. Also secure volunteers to help setup attend to and clean up afterwards. [Late January or early February] Student Testing Snack Coordinator – Plans and coordinates the gathering/purchase of snacks (cheese cracker packs and small waters) for students. Coordinate the distribution of these snacks for each of the testing days during the second semester. [March/April/May]

AP Testing Snack Delivery – Coordinate with the Guidance Office to purchase testing snacks for AP Testing and deliver them to the Guidance office before testing begins. [April]

Health Fair Snack Coordinator – Plans and purchases snacks/waters for the (one-day) Health Fair at school. [March or April]

PTSA Grants – Advertises and gathers grant applications from Central HS staff for support or purchase of project items to benefit students – outside what is normally provided through the school or the individual department. PTSA Grant individual works with the school administration to assess applications and award grant money. Notify grant winners and facilitate distribution of the money. [Grants are given twice: once during fall and spring semesters]

Project Graduation – Organizes and oversees volunteers for this PTSA-sponsored, substance-free post-graduation night celebration event for seniors. The past several years it has been held at “Playtime Pizza”, 10:00pm-2:00am. [Spring semester–large committee; usually co-chaired.]

Tailgate Coordinator – Plan a tailgate before a home football. May be PTSA only sponsored or in coordination with another school group. [Fall]

Building and Grounds - Coordinates efforts for school/grounds beautification. [Random date(s) as scheduled during school year]

Awards/Nominations – Assists in writing awards submitted for PTA Council, State PTA and the ViPS Nominations. [Awards due in January and March]

LRCH Faculty Meeting Hospitality – Purchases and delivers (individually packaged) snacks and water bottles for each monthly staff meeting. [Throughout school year for all scheduled meetings (8 or 9)]

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LRCH Staff Appreciation/Hospitality – Organizes, prepares/provides monthly activities that show appreciation for our staff (teachers, admin, guidance, library, custodial, ETC.) This includes meals (breakfast or lunch) in the staff lounge and/or treats in the staff boxes. [Throughout school year—large committee]

LRSD Check-In (August) – Plans, gathers volunteers and coordinate the LRSD’s two-day August Check-In procedure. [May-planning, Early August-planning, setup, event – usually a team of two coordinators]

Parent Open House – Gathers and organizes volunteers to assist during Open House (time during which all parents have opportunity to meet their students’ teachers). Volunteers pass out programs and gather money during our “Pass the Hat” fundraiser (hats are passed throughout the auditorium to collect monetary donations). The PTSA doesn’t otherwise have large fundraising programs during the year. [September]

LRSD Check-Us-Out Days - Gathers and organizes volunteers to welcome and give tours to parents interested in learning about Central HS during “Check-Us-Out” open recruiting days. [November]

LRSD Recruitment Open House – Organizes punch and cookies reception for parents/students during Open House. [November]

Watch Dog Dads – Organizes fathers, grandfathers, brothers and uncles to volunteer to monitor the halls and other areas so their presence will be known and students will have father figures on the campus of LRCH.

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Little Rock Central High School

2015-2016 Parent Involvement Plan

“Parents Make A Difference”

School Mission Statement:

The mission of Little Rock Central High School is to assist our students in developing the skills necessary to become independent, responsible, self-sufficient adults who will contribute in a global community. Central High School is committed to inspiring each student to the highest standards of intellectual and personal development. We strive to create and maintain a safe, supportive environment in which all students feel valued and respected as they become successful, life-long learners and responsible citizens in a diverse and changing world. Educators and stakeholders will work collaboratively and communicate effectively to ensure the values, behaviors, and expectations necessary to achieve this educational purpose.

Little Rock Central High School is currently considered a focus school.
Little Rock Central High School is not a Title 1 school.

Parent Involvement Committee Members

Ms. Nancy Rousseau, Principal

Mr. Gregory Hodges, Parent Facilitator

Ms. Joy Thompson, Teacher

Ms. Ursula White, Parent

Ms. Nancy Cole, Parent

Little Rock Central High School (LRCHS) will establish a positive, welcoming atmosphere so that parents will always feel welcome at LRCHS.

Little Rock Central High School will communicate with parents in order to increase parental awareness by generating a monthly newsletter and calendar that will be sent out via email, placed on the LRCHS website, and published on the Little Rock Central High School PTSA website. The newsletter and calendar will also be distributed to each student through their first block teacher. Parents will have access to their child’s progress and grades through Edline. Parents will receive summer mail outs, which will include up-to-date information. A prepared information packet will be distributed during registration, consisting of Little Rock Central High School’s Parental Involvement Plan and recommended roles of parents, students, teachers and administration. It will include information on ways for a parent to become involved in our school, and in the education of his/her student. Also included will be tip sheets for parents on how to foster their child’s success in school. Little Rock Central High School maintains a user friendly website, (www.lrcentralhigh.org), that has a wealth of information for parents and students. Little Rock Central High School provides a Parent Center in the Tiger Conference Center that provides magazines, books and other informative materials that are available for check-out by the parents. The Parent Center is a program designed to encourage, enrich, and support parents in their efforts to be more involved in their child’s education. In addition to learning materials for students, the

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center has learning materials for parents that will enhance and support parenting skills. A library of books and videos is available for checkout by parents. Topics include positive discipline tips, teaching responsibility, setting limits, how to say "no", making time-out really work, bedtime problems, single parenting, blended families, homework without tears, strong-willed children, attention deficits, and much more. Two internet-ready computers are also available, and can be used by the parents. Little Rock Central High School is also proud to have a very active PTSA, which distributes a monthly letter to parents and students.

LRCHS offers various meetings and events/activities to increase parent involvement

❖ LRCHS 2015-2016 school year registration dates and times

- August 3, 2015 10:00 am until 7:00 pm
- August 4, 2015 10:00 am until 7:00 pm

❖ Freshmen and New Student Orientation Schedule

- **Date:** August 13, 2015 **Time:** 3:30-5:30 pm.
(Contact Kimberly Burleson @ 447-1532)

❖ LRCHS Science Activity/Event

- **Family Night** **Date:** August 25, 2015 **Time:** 5:00-7:00 pm **Place:** Library

- **Science Fair:** **Date:** February 5, 2016 **Place:** LRCH Gymnasium
Two Categories: Poster or Oral Presentation
Participants will bring their ISEF documentation/approval forms, display board, project data book, and a copy of the research paper, (third person, past tense) to the gymnasium for display. The fair will be open to the public on Saturday, February 6, 2016, 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm and the morning of Monday, February 8, 2016.
(Contact Melissa Donham at 447-1426 for further information)

❖ Fall open House to encourage parents to meet the teachers, administrators and staff:

- September 17, 2015, 5:45 – 9:00 PM

❖ Little Rock Central High School will hold two parent conferences per year.

- October 19, 2015
- February 15, 2016

❖ Open Enrollment

- December 7-18, 2015

❖ "Check Us Out" is designed to showcase our school for potential students.

- October 7, 2015 9:00 am-1:30 pm
- October 8, 2015 9:00 am-1:30 pm

❖ Campus Leadership Team Monthly Meetings

- The 3rd Thursday's of each month.

❖ LRCHS Drama Events/Activities

- Parents Make a Difference in Drama

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- Senior Showcase
 - Drama I Presentation
 - Thespian Induction
 - Give Thanks for Talent Show: “Holiday Happiness”
- For more information please contact: Kimberly Dade (447-1470), Dr. Rhonda Fowler (447-1566) and Melinda Beith (447-1469).

❖ **LRCHS Debate Competitions and Tournaments**

The LRCH Tiger debate team competes at over 20 tournaments in any given year, both in Arkansas and around the nation. Tiger debate has held the state title in Policy Debate for 14 straight years, and has attended national mock trials four times. Among Tiger debate's major competitions are:

- Harvard National Invitational (Cambridge, MA)
- Cal Berkley National Invitational (Berkley, CA)
- The Glenbrooks Invitational (Glenbrooks, IL)
- Arkansas Student Congress
- Arkansas Bar Association Mock Trial
- Sigma Xi Science in Society Debates

LRCHS has the only Arkansas debate program to have made multiple appearances at the national debate Tournament of Champions in Lexington, Kentucky. **(For more information please contact Rosie Valdez, Director of Debate-LRCHS and Chair-NSDA Arkansas District (109) at 501-447-1441 or 501.607.0690)**

❖ **LRCHS Health Fair**

Contact the school Wellness Center for information: Evelyn Allen, Social Worker (447-1427) or Linda Thompson, Wellness Center-Secretary (447-1428)

❖ **LRCHS Guidance Counselors host “Parents Make a Difference” where they discuss:**

- What students are learning
- How students will be assessed
- What parents should expect for their child’s education
- How parents can assist and make a difference in their child’s education.
- Post -secondary preparation.
- Career planning

Contact the guidance counselor’s office for more information: Lequieta Grayson, Counselor (447-1586) or Valerie Miles, Secretary (447-1417)

❖ **Drug and Alcohol Awareness Workshops.** Please contact the guidance counselors office @ 447-1417

❖ **PTSA Monthly meetings which include guest speakers.** Refer to LRCHS website for more information

Date	Time	Date	Time	Date	Time
September 19-2015	12:00 pm	January 19, 2016	12:00 pm	05-17-2016	12:00 pm
October 20, 2015	5:00 pm	February 16, 2016	5:00 pm		
December 1, 2015	12:00 pm	April 5, 2016	12:00 pm		

❖ **Honors Convocation (April, 2016)**

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LRCHS highlights students' success. The freshmen and sophomores will receive special recognition within the school day. The juniors and seniors will be invited to the LRCHS auditorium to showcase an evening convocation at 6:00 pm. Contact Kimberly Burleson at 447-1532 for more information

❖ **Choir Concerts** **Winter:** December 11, 2015 **Spring:** May 13, 2016
(Contact Scott Whitfield @ 447-1531 for more information)

❖ **Band Concerts**
Winter: 12-08-2015 @ 6:00 pm **Spring:** 02-18-2016 @ 6:00 pm 05-10-2016 @ 6:00 pm
(For more information contact **Brice Evans** @ 447-1531 or **Scott Addition** @ 447-1516)

❖ LRCHS Alumni Association meetings and allow it to serve in an advisory capacity.
Contact Keith Richardson @ 501-447-1611 or email tigers@lrtigeralumni.org

Little Rock Central High School provides information to parents about volunteer opportunities through many avenues. Little Rock Central High School will publish a volunteer resource book, listing the interests and availability of volunteers for school staff members' use. The resource book will help match school needs with volunteer interests. To develop the volunteer resource book, the school will:

- ✓ Survey parents regarding their interests, so volunteer work will be meaningful;
- ✓ Determine how frequently a volunteer would like to participate, including just one time a year

We offer many opportunities for parents to volunteer. The school provides a sign up list for parents to use in the main office. Little Rock Central High School PTSA also provides monthly letters that are sent out via email.



Please contact Nancy Cole, ncole@13ark.com, if you are interested in serving in one of these positions or for more information.

LRCHS PTSA Leadership Positions Available

- 1) **Volunteer Coordinator/Class Schedule Pick-ups**
 - a. 9th Grade Orientation
 - b. Upper Classmen, 1st Day School
- 2) **PTSA Meeting Hospitality**
- 3) **Science Fair Judges Liaison**
- 4) **LRSD Check-In (August)**
- 5) **LRSD "Check-Us-Out" Days (November)**

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Volunteer information please contact: **a)** LRCHS at 501-447-1400, **b)** Nancy Cole, PTSA-President (ncole@13ark.com) or **c)** Gregory Hodges, Parent Facilitator (Gregory.hodges@lrsd.org)

Little Rock Central High School invites parents to be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of our school. Every effort shall be made to incorporate the use of school volunteers into each school's program as well as other programs or activities of the school district. We encourage parents to become actively involved by:

- ✓ Surveying parents regarding their interests, so the school can more effectively meet their needs.
- ✓ Attend scheduled "Parents make a Difference" night where various subjects will be discussed. Subjects will be as follows:
 - What students are learning?
 - How students will be assessed
 - High school course selection
 - Career planning
 - Postsecondary preparation
 - What parents should expect for their child's education
 - How parents can assist and make a difference in their child's education
- ✓ Staff evaluation of the schools activities that will be used to help plan the next year's activities.
- ✓ Attend Campus Leadership meetings.
- ✓ Attend monthly PTSA meetings.

Little Rock Central High School hosts many evening events for parents and teachers to obtain training that will help encourage parental involvement. Little Rock Central High School will provide, throughout the school year, continuous professional development for teachers.

Little Rock Central High School continually strives to engage parents in decision making processes. We invite parents to be a part of our committees that help us meet the needs of our diverse student body. Little Rock Central High School fiercely works to increase the membership in LRCHS Alumni Association and PTSA.

Little Rock Central High School will provide resources for parents by:

- ✓ Maintaining the **LRCHS Parent Center** in the Tiger Conference Room on 4th Floor
LRCHS-Parent Facilitator's responsibility is to ensure that the Parent Center is a place where parents can come and feel welcome, have a sense of belonging, and be reassured that their ideas, concerns, and opinions are valued. The LRCH Parent Center is a safe and caring environment for resources, learning, and connecting. Throughout the school year, the Parent Center will offer a variety of resources to increase your capacity as parents.
- ✓ Purchase magazines and books along with other materials that will be housed in the Parent Center available for check-out by the parents.
- ✓ Maintain two computers with internet availability for parents to use in the Tiger Conference Center.
- ✓ Prepare family kits that will be distributed at registration and will consist of the following:
 - LRCHS Parental Involvement Plan
 - Important school information on school policies and procedures.
 - Recommended roles of parents, students, teachers, and administration.

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- Information on ways for a parent to become involved in our school and in the education of his/her student.
- Calendar of activities that are planned throughout the year to encourage parental involvement.
- A communication process that allows parents, teachers, and administrators to communicate in a productive two-way manner.

In an effort to assist Little Rock Central High School, parental surveys will be used to help establish activities that will be most beneficial in supporting our students.

Little Rock Central High School will:

- ✓ Survey parents regarding their interests in order for the school to meet their needs more effectively.
- ✓ Schedule “Parents Make a Difference” night where various subjects will be discussed. Subjects will be as follows:
 - What students are learning?
 - How students will be assessed.
 - High school course selection.
 - Career planning.
 - Postsecondary preparation.
 - What parents should expect for their child’s education.
 - How parents can assist and make a difference in their child’s education.
 - Staff evaluation of the schools activities that will be used to help plan the next year’s activities.

It is the goal of Little Rock Central High School to foster an ongoing partnership between families, communities, and the school. We believe such a partnership is fundamental to the academic and social success of students. From this partnership, a support will evolve that will have a positive effect on student achievement, and will produce a sense of cooperative responsibility in ensuring excellence in the educational process.

During the entire length of time the student spends in school, Little Rock Central High School realizes that the students’ education is a shared responsibility between the school and the family. To support the mission of the school to educate all students effectively, LRCHS and parents must work as knowledgeable partners. Parents are an integral component of the schools ability to provide for the educational success of their children. Little Rock Central High School endeavors to meet the diverse cultural needs of parents and students. Little Rock Central High School acknowledges that engaging parents is essential to improve student achievement, and that schools should foster and support active parental involvement.

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. LRCHS collaborates with LRSD Central-East Cluster Schools. The Central-East Cluster Schools are elementary (Bale, Carver, Franklin, Gibbs, King, Rockefeller, Stephens, Wilson, Washington, Western Hills, and Woodruff), and secondary (Dunbar, and Mann), and High School (Central, Hamilton, and Metropolitan). The NNPS Program focus on the six "keys to parent involvement," identified by educational researchers as the critical components of home/school/community connections.

Six Keys to Successful Parent Involvement Partnership:



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



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



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



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



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



Collaborating with the Community: Coordinate resources and services from the community for families, students, and the school, and provide services to the community. *For more information visit National Network of Partnership Schools website at nmps@jhu.edu*



LRCH School Based Intervention Team (SBIT)

Each LRSD school must have a school-based intervention team (SBIT) in order to complete the referral process and compliance steps outlined in the LRSD Student Handbook regarding discipline in accordance with approved alternative learning environment (ALE) regulations. The purpose of SBIT is to collaboratively address minor, inappropriate behaviors in the school setting prior to recommending a student for an ALE setting.

SBIT utilizes research-based strategies to design measurable intervention plans to enhance targeted students decision-making skills. The team consists of an administrator, certified and non-certified staff members, students, parent(s)/guardian, community agencies, guidance counselor, social worker, and dropout prevention coordinator. SBIT utilizes assistant principals and student's teacher's data to determine the root cause of inappropriate behaviors to prevent academic failure. The team will establish intervention strategies to assist students in making responsible decisions. LRCH school-based and/or outside agencies, as well as parent and students, serve as a vital resource in designing student's intervention plans. The student's teacher(s) receives written feedback that includes options to be considered in handling student's potential off task behavior.

Important Information for Parents to Know

Edline

Monitoring your student's progress is vital to his/her success in the classroom. Edline is parent friendly software that is internet accessible for viewing students' grades and communicating with your student's teachers. Parents and students will have viewing capabilities this year. For questions concerning Edline, please contact our technology specialist, **Allen Morton** at allen.morton@lrsd.org or at **447-1431**.

Interim Reports

It is a joint responsibility of the teacher and parent to monitor and assist students to achieve educational success. Therefore, interim reports are mailed to the parent/guardian each 9 weeks to report a student's possible or pending failure in classes. Interim reports may also be mailed home at any time a change appears in academic performance.

Report Cards

Report Cards are delivered to each student once each quarter. The dates are listed on the LRCHS monthly calendar or on the Little Rock School District calendar that is given to each family at Student Check-in (registration) in August.

LRCHS Monthly Calendar and Principal's Letter

A calendar of school events and a letter of important information are given to each student on the first day of the month or a copy of it can be accessed on the LRCHS website (www.lrcentralhigh.org) or picked up in the main office

Parent/Teacher/Student Organization (PTSA)

Little Rock Central has a very active parent/teacher/student organization. Parents and students may join at any time by contacting Nancy Delacerda at ndelacerda@comcast.net, or Nancy Cole, PTSA President, at ncole@13ark.com. Information will be on the school's monthly calendar, distributed to every student or accessed on the PTSA web page via the school website. PTSA newsletters can also be obtained by clicking on the "PTSA" link located on the Central High website: lrcentralhigh.net.

Parent Volunteers

Central needs help from parents! We could not make it without the help of all of our parent volunteers! There are many jobs at school for persons interested in assisting in areas such as the attendance office, health room, main office, library, special projects, PTSA, booster club, school dances, etc. Please contact Nancy Cole at ncole@13ark.com if you are interested in becoming a volunteer.

Little Rock Central Alumni/Patrons Association

We would be excited for you to join our LRCHS Alumni Association. We are extending this invitation to everyone whether you are a LRCHS graduate or not. We have a patrons listing for those interested parties who want to be a part of Central High and its rich tradition, but did not have the opportunity to graduate from our wonderful school. If you are interested, please contact us at www.lrtigeralumni.org or by contacting Sharon Heflin, Alumni Association President at swheflin@lrtigeralumni.org or at 888-2345 ext. 206.

Little Rock Central High School Verizon Grant

Little Rock Central High has a two-year grant through the Verizon Foundation to implement Thinkfinity. Thinkfinity.org is the cornerstone of Verizon Foundation's literacy, education and technology initiatives. The goal is to improve student achievement in traditional classroom settings and beyond by providing high-quality content and extensive lessons for parents, students and educators. Parents and students can register to obtain enrichment or reinforcement in content areas such as science, mathematics, literacy, and humanities. If you would like more information, please log on to www.thinkfinity.org.

Tiger Pride – Where Excellence is a Tradition

Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan

The Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Planning (ACSIP) model is an annual planning and design that must be used by all Arkansas public and charter schools, as defined by Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-419. Using the ACSIP model, each school in Arkansas develops a comprehensive school improvement plan. It must include activities based on the school's greatest needs and identify the performance of student subgroups if the subgroup did not meet the achievement level necessary for Adequate Yearly Progress (ADE Comprehensive State Application Accountability Plan, 2004) www.arkansased.org. If you are interested in learning more about our School Improvement Plan, please contact **Barbara Stafford**, the School Improvement Coordinator, at barbara.stafford@lrsd.org or at **447-1583**

LRCHS Alma Mater

Hail to the Old Gold!
Hail to the Black!
Hail, Alma Mater,
Naught does she lack.

We love no other,
So let our motto be
V I C T O R Y
Little Rock Central High!

Little Rock Central High School Student Honor Code

1. Purpose of the Honor Code:

- a. Help create a supportive and fair learning environment
- b. Foster a capacity for ethical decision making
- c. Demonstrate the student body's commitment to serious academic pursuits
- d. Guarantee the integrity and value of each student's work

2. Scope:

- a. The honor code applies to all academic work, including, but not limited to examinations, quizzes, papers, and laboratory assignments.
- b. Violations of the honor code include cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, multiple submissions, and other acts as defined below.

3. Violations of the Honor Code:

- a. **Cheating:** Any dishonest assistance that might give one student an unfair advantage over another in the performance of any assigned, graded academic work, inside or outside of the classroom, is considered cheating. Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Copying from another student's work or allowing another student to copy from your work
 - b. Using outside materials that are not authorized for use during an exam
 - c. Preparing notes to take into a closed-book exam-- for example, writing on your hand or desk
 - d. Using electronic devices (calculators, computers, etc) in unauthorized manners
 - e. Talking, making signs or gestures during exams
 - f. Unauthorized use of previously graded work
 - g. Collaboration on a project that was intended to be the work of an individual student
- b. **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is the appropriation of the work or ideas of another person without proper acknowledgement of the source. Plagiarism may include:
 - a. Verbatim use of phrases, sentences, or paragraphs without quotation marks or appropriate citation
 - b. Paraphrasing the work of another without attribution, or taking a written passage and altering a few words in an effort to make the writing one's own
 - c. Non-textual images such as drawings, graphs and maps are also subject to plagiarism, as are the experiments, computer programs, musical compositions, and web sites of others.
 - d. The use of an idea or another which cannot reasonably be regarded as common knowledge

*** A lack of knowledge of the standards of academic citation does not excuse violating the principles of the honor code. Students should consult their teacher regarding forms of footnoting and bibliographical documentation expected in their course.*

- c. **Fabrication:** Fabrication occurs when a student consciously manufactures or manipulates information to support an academic exercise. Some examples of fabrication are:
 - a. Falsifying citations, for example, by citing information from a non-existent reference
 - b. Manipulating or manufacturing data to support research
 - c. Taking another student's examination or writing another student's paper
 - d. Listing sources in the bibliography or works cited page that were not used in the academic exercise
 - e. Forging documents, records, or signatures

- 4. **Multiple Submissions:** The same work may not be submitted to more than one course without the prior approval of all instructors involved. Reasonable portions of a student's previous work on the topic may be used, but the extent of the work must be acknowledged.
 - a. **Penalties for violations:**
 - a. **First offense:** The student will receive a score of zero for the assignment. Parents will be notified by the teacher. The student's assistant principal will also be sent a referral noting the incident. Possible other consequences include dismissal from student council positions, Beta Club, National Honors Society, and other honor societies and clubs to which the student may belong. Faculty may also refuse to write letters of recommendation for the student.
 - b. **Second offense:** Parent conference and administrator notification
 - c. **Third offense:** Suspension

- 5. **Attendance Policy:**
 - a. **Responsibilities of the Parent"**
 - a. Ensure the child attends school daily and on time.
 - b. Notifies the attendance office at 447-1411 of an absence by 12:00 noon on the day of the absence.
 - c. In order for a student to be excused with three (3) or more consecutive absences a written document must be submitted within 48 hours from the doctor, dentist, court, or other appropriate documentation entities.
 - d. Contact the school administrator requesting a conference at the 3rd and 6th absences to discuss interventions and the consequences for more than (12) absences.
 - e. Before the 12th absence, petitions the school in writing for special arrangements to address student's absences.

 - b. **There are two (2) options when checking out a student early**
 - a. The parent may call the attendance office at 447-1411 before 12:00 noon and request that the student be checked out that day. At the appropriate time, the student will leave the classroom and proceed to the attendance office to sign out.

 - b. The parent may **enter the building** and sign the check out log in the attendance office. The person checking student out of school must show picture identification and be listed on the student's personal information

records. The attendance secretary will call for the student, who will then proceed to the attendance office to sign out.

School Attendance Office: Please have the student's ID number ready to expedite the process. Failure to notify this office will result in the absence being recorded as unexcused. Course credit will be denied for each class in which a student has more than twelve (12) unexcused absences during one semester.

Any exceptions to the above procedures and any emergencies will be addressed by Ms. Heggs, Attendance Director at 447-1411, on a case-by-case basis. In addition, LRSD policy states that parents are not to go directly to classrooms to pick up their students or for any other reason. We appreciate your cooperation.

In the event of out-of-town trips and other unusual or extended school absences, the parent must submit a request or explanation in writing to the principal in a timely manner for approval.

c. EXCUSED ABSENCES:

- a. Students or groups of students who participate in school-sponsored activities that are approved in advance will not be counted as absent during the class periods missed due to that participation.
- b. Students may be excused from classes upon request from parents or guardians to observe religious or specific holy days that are not school related. Such absences, if approved in advance, will not result in loss of credit.
- c. Students may be excused from classes for medical or dental appointments; required court appearances upon presentation of documentation by the courts; absences due to family emergency in cases of serious illness or death within the immediate family; or other reasons acceptable to the principal.
- d. Absences for college or job interviews for seniors, with approval by the principal, may be excused.

6. HALL PASSES: Restroom passes may be issued only on an emergency basis during class. Students should use the restroom before school, between classes, or during the lunch period. The school maintains the LRSD security policy of not allowing students to leave the classroom during the first 10-minutes and the last 10-minutes of any class period. **The LRCHS agenda book is to be used at all times as a hall pass. Students may only use their agenda book, NOT another student's book.**

7. Mandatory for Students to Maintain:

- a. LRCHS Agenda Book
- b. LRSD Student Handbook
- c. Mesh or Clear Backpacks

8. LRCHS Two (2) Tardy Polices: Students are considered tardy if they are not in their assigned location when the tardy bell rings. Listed below is the LRCHS tardy policies procedures:

- a. **1st Block Tardy** Teachers may excuse first block tardies. They will use their discretion in excusing tardies due to inclement weather, wrecks, traffic, car problems, family problems, transportation issues, etc. However, if the teacher knows a student is deliberately late to first block class, they will follow the tardy procedure.

- b. **Tiger-Turtle Tardy** Students reporting to their 2nd through 4th block classes.
 - 1st Tardy** Teacher warns student

 - 2nd Tardy** Administrator warns student and contacts parent/guardian by phone; student assigned one (1) day lunch detention.

 - 3rd Tardy** Administrator/Parent Conference by phone; student assigned one (1) day lunch detention.

 - 4th Tardy** Administrator/Parent intervention Conference. Student placed on a contract for tardiness and student assigned two (2) days of lunch detention.

 - 5th Tardy** On the fifth tardy and all subsequent tardies, progressive discipline as per the student contract will be assigned by administration starting with in-school suspension, up to and including out-of-school suspension, and recommendation to the School Based Intervention Team (SBIT).

Special Note Parent/Guardian: If a sanction has not been served, you will be notified, and you will be asked to give the student a reminder to report to lunch detention. Remember, students will be given credit for serving lunch detention for tardies only on Tuesday or Thursday.

9. **DETENTION HALL:** Students may be assigned to detention hall for any Category 1 offense (see Student Handbook). On the assigned date the student must report to the detention hall location within five (5) minutes of the dismissal bell for lunch. The door will be closed at the end of the five-minute period, and no student will be admitted. The student will remain in detention hall for 15 minutes and will then be released to go for lunch. If the student is late to detention hall or fails to attend on the assigned date(s), he or she is to attend on the next possible date.

10. **IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION:** The purpose of the in-school suspension program (ISSP) is to provide consequences for the infraction of Category 1 offenses. While in the ISSP classroom, students will receive their assignments, but they will not attend their regular classes or their regular lunch periods. Behavior modification exercises, such as writing and/or reading assignments, and counseling are also an integral part of the program.
11. **LRCHS BASED SECURITY:**
- a. Eleven School Security Officers (SSO) that provide full time supervision and assistance to students, parents, teachers, and administrators (Jackie Fells-Night Supervisor and Donald Akins-Evening Supervisor)
 - b. Two full time School Resource Officers (SRO) from the LRPD assigned to Central High School (Rodney Davis and Scott Reedy)
12. **INTERIM REPORTS:** Interim reports are distributed each 9 weeks to report the progress and/or possible or pending failure in classes. Interim reports may be sent home at any time a change appears in academic performance. It is a joint responsibility of the teacher and parent to monitor and assist students to achieve educational success. The student is responsible for taking the interim report home to his/her parents.
13. **SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS:** Whenever a teacher must be absent from school, a substitute is hired to deliver the instruction for the teacher. Students are to show appropriate respect to all adults at LRCH. Any student who displays inappropriate behavior while in a classroom with a substitute will be disciplined by an administrator according to the Handbook.
14. **SUPPLIES:** Students are required to furnish their own supplies for each class they attend. Requirements will vary by teacher and subject.

GUIDE TO STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

School-Wide Discipline Policy: In a building the size of Central and with the large number of students housed in this school, negative behavior can create a safety hazard as well as be a nuisance to the people in the building. These behaviors will be handled with the appropriate disciplinary action. In all cases, the LRSD Student Handbook will be followed. Please refer to the LRSD Student Handbook for definitions and details.

Asking for Extra Help:

Teachers are available to work with students before and after school or during both lunches. The student should make an appointment with a teacher to get extra help whenever he or she cannot master the material during regular class sessions. Arrangements to meet the teacher must be made in advance because teachers often have meetings or other responsibilities outside of regular class hours.

Completing Homework Promptly: Students are assigned homework on a regular basis. The teacher will decide when homework will be given and will plan assignments that meet the needs of the students. Consequences for not turning in homework depend upon each teacher's expectations.

Expectations for Students: It is expected that students will display good conduct. We have high expectations for all students.

- ❖ Be on time for all classes.
- ❖ Come to class with necessary materials.
- ❖ Move through the building in an orderly fashion.
- ❖ Only the *Student Agenda* will be used as a hall pass.
- ❖ No public display of affection.
- ❖ Follow school and classroom rules.
- ❖ Wear appropriate clothing.
- ❖ Respect the school and the property of others.
- ❖ Use appropriate language.
- ❖ Report any safety issues to an adult.
- ❖ Settle conflicts appropriately.
- ❖ Treat peers and staff with respect.
- ❖ Conduct yourself respectfully in the community.
- ❖ LRCH is a closed campus. Students may never leave without permission.

ITEMS FORBIDDEN AT CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL:

gambling paraphernalia	animals	cigarettes/tobacco products
firecrackers	alcoholic beverages	intoxicants
toy weapons	laser pointer	toy/water gun
chewing gum	glass containers	knife
spraying device	weapon/explosive device	dice firearm
lighters/matches/illegal drugs	playing cards	camera
electronic devices/games	CD PLAYER	cassette tape player
iPAD	MP3 player/iPOD	radio

Electronic Devices:

LRCHS administrators are planning a system for Possession/Use of Paging Devices, Cellular Phones and/or other Electronic Communication Devices. Please contact a school administrator for more information about electronic devices.

LRCHS Clubs and Organizations

- | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Anime Club | Area 5 AR Special Olympics | AR Young Artist Association | |
| Art Club | Beta Club | Black Cultural Society | |
| Book Club | Bridge Club | Central’s Intercultural Acceptance | |
| Organization (CIAO) | Cercle Francais (French I-VI) | Chess Club | |
| Chinese Club | Civil Rights Memory Project Team | Cum Laude Society | Distributive |
| Education Clubs of America (DECA) | | Drama Clowns | |
| | Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) | | |
| Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) | Film Club | French Club | |
| Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) | Gay/Straight Alliance | Gentlemen’s Club | |
| German Club | Graphic Arts Club | International Thespian Society | |
| Jobs for AR Graduates (JAG) | Junior Ambassadors | Junior Civitan | |
| | Junior Science and Humanities Symposium, Regional Science Fair, State | | |
| Science Fair | Knitting Club | Ladies Club | Latin Club |
| Mathletes | Model UN | Mu Alpha Theta | Muslim Student Association Club |
| National Art Honor Society | | National Honor Society | |
| | Office Education Cooperative (OEC) | | |
| Ourtown/Unitown | Philosophy Club | Ping Pong Club | |
| Pre-College Diversity | Engineering Club (SECME) | Principal’s Cabinet | |
| Programming Club | Quiz Bowl-Varsity and Junior Varsity | Recycling Club | |
| Science Club | Science Olympics CBI | Student Council | |
| Students Taking a New Direction (STAND) | Teachers of Tomorrow | Troubadours | |
| | Tigers Always Interested in Listening to Students (TAILS) | | |
| Ultimate Frisbee | Writeous Poetry/Spoken Word Club | Young Democrats | |
| Young Republicans | Young Socialist Club | | |

Care of the Building: Everyone should take pride in his/her school building inside and out. We must do everything we can do to keep our school clean and attractive. Students are expected to pick up paper and litter from the classroom and hallway floors at the end of each class period. Please be a thoughtful citizen and pick up paper and lunch trash. This is a beautiful building. It takes all of us as a team to keep it shining!

Cafeteria: The duty person in charge will direct students to line up in an orderly fashion. It is your responsibility to clean up after yourself. Be sure to dispose of your tray and trash when you are finished with your lunch. Applications for free/reduced lunch will be available in the office. No food is allowed above the cafeteria level.

Vandalism: Central prohibits the writing of graffiti on any items belonging to the school. Vandalism is a punishable offense and will be dealt with severely. Gang related graffiti is not tolerated at Central.

Bus Safety: Students who ride the bus must follow all rules and regulations as outlined in the *LRSD Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook* and as established by the bus driver. Students must ride only the bus to which they are assigned.

Dress Code: It is inappropriate to wear anything that detracts from or disrupts the learning environment or educational process. Examples of items or clothes that are distracting or disruptive include the following:

- ❖ Pants worn that fall/sag below the waistline
- ❖ Shirts or blouses tied at the midriff, clothing with bare midriff, or clothing not properly fastened
- ❖ Shorts or skirts more than four (4) inches above the bend in the back of the knee
- ❖ Clothing with negative overtones that appear to be derogatory or discriminatory, profane, suggestive or inflammatory, including those with drug, alcohol, and/or tobacco related items
- ❖ Clothing and/or accessories of prohibited organizations or gangs
- ❖ Tank tops or underwear worn as outer garments.
- ❖ Spandex shorts, athletic shorts
- ❖ Headwear (hats, hair rollers, bandanas, headbands, etc.)

These and similar items are prohibited. Students who are dressed inappropriately may be asked to leave the classroom or school until the dress code is met.

Parking: Students are encouraged to ride the bus or carpool whenever possible. Students may not park in the lot behind the school near the portable buildings. Unauthorized parking and/or parking a vehicle, which blocks others from leaving, will result in the vehicle being towed and impounded by the police department.

ONLY JUNIORS AND SENIORS CAN REGISTER THEIR CARS and park them in the designated parking areas. Students must register all vehicles driven to LRCH. There is a \$20 charge for registration. You will receive a special parking permit. Students will be assigned to parking areas according to availability and grade level. The school reserves the right to search a student's vehicle with probable cause.

Honors

1. Scholar's Curriculum – Regular graduation requirements plus a 4th year of science & social studies, 2 years of a foreign language and a minimum of 8 Pre-Ap & AP courses.
2. Honor Graduates - To be an honor graduate, a student must have completed the LRSD scholar's curriculum and have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better.
3. Beta Club
4. Mu Alpha Theta
5. National Honor Society
6. Cum Laude Society – Induction into the Cum Laude Society in the spring of a student's senior year is the highest academic honor a student can achieve at Central High. A student must earn 21 semester A's by the end of the first semester of their senior year, or 25 semester A's as recorded on the transcript at the end of the second semester of their senior year. At least eight of the A's must be in courses taken at Little Rock Central High School. Only academic, college preparatory courses and college courses in the areas of English, Math, Social Studies, Science, and Languages taken during the sophomore, junior, and senior years will be considered.

LRCHS BELL SCHEDULES

A/B Regular Daily Bell Schedule

7:40-8:35	Zero Hour
8:35	Enter Building
8:45	Tardy Bell
8:45-10:25	1 st Block
10:25-12:36	2nd Block
1 st Lunch	10:25-10:59
Class	11:06-12:36
2 nd Lunch	12:02-12:36
Class	10:32-12:02
12:43 - 2:13	3 rd Block
2:20 - 3:50	4 th Block

AM Assembly Bell Schedule

7:40-8:35	Zero Hour
8:35	Enter Building
8:45	Tardy Bell
8:45-10:10	1 st Block
10:20-11:10	Assembly
11:16-1:07	2nd Block
1 st Lunch	11:16-11:46
Class	11:52-1:07
2 nd Lunch	12:37-1:07
Class	11:16-12:31
1:014-2:29	3 rd Block
2:35-3:50	4 th Block

**LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT
CHILD NUTRITION DEPARTMENT
MEAL PRICE LIST
2015-2016**

BREAKFAST

Student	1.90
Reduced-Price Student30
Adults	2.20

LUNCH

Elementary Student	2.70
Secondary Student	2.80
Reduced-Price Meals40
Adults (non-students) Meal with or without Milk.	3.35

All Milk Sold40
Juice, Individual40

Effective: July 1, 2015

Parental involvement reflects the four principles upon which the **Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965** (ESEA) is based. These principles provide the framework through which families, educators and communities can work together to improve teaching and learning. These principles are accountability for results, local control and flexibility, expanded parental choice, and effective and successful programs that reflect scientifically based research.

Parental Involvement also focuses on accountability between schools and parents for high student achievement, while offering parents important insight into their children's education, the professional qualifications of their child's teacher and the quality of the schools they attend.

For more information, please contact: *Geraldine Mallette, Public School Program Advisor*
Arkansas Department of Education
Division of Learning Services
Four Capitol Mall, Mail Slot #26
Little Rock, AR 72201
Phone: 501-683-5300
Fax: 501-682-5136

What should I do if my child isn't doing well in school?

Contact your child's teacher. Don't wait for the school to contact you. It's important to resolve problems as soon as possible when they occur. When parents work with teachers, they are often able to improve a child's performance in school. Children also get the sense that education is really important when they see their parents involved with their teachers and their school. Parents feel a sense of accomplishment, too, when they help their children succeed in school.

Ask your child's teacher for specific activities you can do at home with your child and help the teacher better understand what works best with your child. Make it clear that if the teacher sees a problem developing, you want to hear about it immediately. Then, meet with your child's teacher frequently until the problem is resolved.

How can I make our home a good place for my child to learn?

- ❖ Have high expectations for your child's learning and behavior, both at home and at school.
- ❖ Praise and encourage your child.
- ❖ Emphasize effort and achievement, and be a role model for getting work done before play.
- ❖ Establish rules and routines in the home.
- ❖ Monitor television viewing.
- ❖ Limit after-school jobs and activities.
- ❖ Encourage your child to share information about school and respond with empathy.
- ❖ If you don't do anything else, read to your child or have him or her read to you every night. Encourage older children to read by showing that you yourself read (the newspaper, magazines, or books) and have interesting and appropriate books around your home for them.

How Can I Be Involved in My Child's Education?

Part 1

By Lynn Lontos

Research studies consistently reveal that high student achievement and self-esteem are closely related to positive parental participation in education. Parents and schools need to work together so all children can succeed in school.

Almost everyone agrees that parents are, after all, their children's first and most important teachers. You, as a parent, have important knowledge about your child's likes, dislikes, needs, and problems that the school may not be aware of. You may also have ideas for improving your child's school. But even though studies show that most parents want to be involved in their children's education, they may not be exactly sure how to go about it, especially if, like most parents, they work during the school day.

Parents often ask the following questions:

What can I do to involve myself with my child's school?

Here are other ideas:

- ❖ Visit your child's classroom. A visit will give you an idea of what your child does at school and how he or she interacts with other children.
- ❖ Volunteer to help in the classroom as an assistant. Listen to children read, for example, or serve as an aide for a couple of hours.
- ❖ Support student events and performances by helping with them (such as sewing costumes or painting scenery for a school play) and by attending them.
- ❖ If your school has a parent center, drop in to meet other parents there or to pick up information and materials.
- ❖ Participate in workshops that are offered, such as those on child development or concerns that parents have (or help plan such workshops).
- ❖ Take advantage of parent-teacher contracts (perhaps agreeing to read with your child for a certain amount of time each night).
- ❖ Ask your child's teacher if he or she has materials that you can use to help your child at home and to supplement homework.
- ❖ Be part of decision-making committees about school issues and problems.

How can I help my child with homework?

Most teachers assign homework on a regular basis because practice is needed before children fully understand new skills or concepts. Homework also allows students to do more in-depth learning.

Here are some general guidelines for helping with homework:

- ❖ Reward progress. Use lots of praise and display good work on the refrigerator.
- ❖ Find out how much and what type of homework is assigned in each class, how students are expected to prepare it and turn it in, and what students can do when they don't understand something. Help your child manage the workload by dividing it into small doses.
- ❖ Help your child develop a homework schedule that he or she can stick to.
- ❖ Talk to your child each day about homework assignments. Go over the work, see if it's complete, and ask questions about it, but don't do your child's homework for him or her.
- ❖ Provide a suitable place for study. If possible, make it quiet and away from the distractions of TV, phone, and loud music.
- ❖ Avoid making homework a punishment.

What if my child doesn't like school?

Using your unique knowledge of your child, try to find out why he or she seems unhappy with school. Observe and listen to your child. The problem may not lie with school itself, but with peers or friends. It may also be a family problem or an issue of self-esteem. Arrange for a conference with the teacher or school counselor. Work toward being able to discuss problems with your child openly, and listen carefully to his or her views before you offer any solutions.

Children whose parents are involved in their education have better grades, a more positive attitude toward school, and more appropriate school behavior than those with less involved parents. So don't underestimate what YOU, as a parent, can contribute to your child's learning experiences, no matter how much education you yourself have. Getting involved in your child's education will make a difference.

Written by Lynn Lontos, Eric Clearinghouse on Education Management.

Resource Organizations for Parental Involvement

- 1) Alliance for Parent Involvement in Education
P.O. Box 59
East Chatham, NY 12060-0059
(518) 392-6900

- 2) Center for School Organization of Schools
Johns Hopkins University
3505 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218-2498
(410) 516-8800

- 3) National Network of Partnership Schools
Johns Hopkins University
2701 N. Charles Street, Suite 300
Baltimore, MD 21218
nnps@jhu.edu.

- 4) The Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) operates 16 clearinghouses specializing in education topics; for information call 1-800-LET-ERIC (538-3742).

- 5) For more information on this subject, contact:
Eric Clearinghouse on Educational Management
University of Oregon
1787 Agate Street
Eugene, OR 97403-5207
(800) 438-8841
(503) 346-5043
[Hhp://darkwing.uoregon.edu:80/~ericcem/home.html](http://darkwing.uoregon.edu:80/~ericcem/home.html)

A.C.A 6-15-1972:

(a) Each public school district and each public school within its boundaries, in collaboration with parents, shall establish a parental involvement plan, including programs and practices that enhance parental involvement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families.

(b) The parental involvement program in each school shall:

(1) Involve parents of students at all grade levels in a variety of roles;

(2) Be comprehensive and coordinated in nature;

(3) (A) Recognize that communication between home and school should be regular, two-way, and meaningful.

(B) To encourage communication with parents, the school shall:

(i) Prepare an informational packet to be distributed annually to the parent of each child in the school, appropriate for the age and grade of the child, describing:

(a) The school's parental involvement program;

(b) The recommended role of the parent, student, teacher, and school;

(c) Ways for the parent to become involved in the school and his or her child's education;

(d) A survey for the parent regarding his or her interests concerning volunteering at the school;

(e) Activities planned throughout the school year to encourage parental involvement; and

(f) A system to allow the parents and teachers to communicate in a regular, two-way, and meaningful manner with the child's teacher and the school principal; and

(ii) Schedule no fewer than two (2) parent-teacher conferences per school year.

(C) The school may plan and engage in other activities determined by the school to be beneficial to encourage communication with parents;

(4) (A) Promote and support responsible parenting.

(B) To promote and support responsible parenting, the school shall, as funds are available:

(i) Purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative material regarding responsible parenting through the school library, advertise the current selection, and give parents an

opportunity to borrow the materials for review;

(ii) Create parent centers; and

(iii) Plan and engage in other activities determined by the school to be beneficial to promoting and supporting responsible parenting;

(5) (A) Acknowledge that parents play an integral role in assisting student learning.

(B) To help parents in assisting students, the school shall:

(i) Schedule regular parent involvement 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 will be assessed;

(c) What a parent should expect for his or her child's education; and

(d) How a parent can assist and make a difference in his or her child's education;

(ii) Provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation:

(a) Role play and demonstration by trained volunteers;

(b) The use of and access to Department of Education website tools for parents;

(c) Assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation; and

(d) Other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Department of Education; and

(iii) Engage in other activities determined by the school to help a parent assist in his or her child's learning;

(6) (A) Welcome parents into the school and seek parental support and assistance.

(B) To welcome parents into the school, the school shall:

(i) Not have any school policies or procedures that would discourage a parent from visiting the school or from visiting a child's classrooms;

(ii) Encourage school staff to use the volunteer surveys to compile a volunteer resource book listing the interests and availability of volunteers so that school staff may:

(a) Determine how frequently a volunteer would like to participate, including the option of just one (1) time per year;

(b) Include options for those who are available to help at home; and

(c) Help match school needs with volunteer interests; and

(iii) Engage in other activities determined by the school to welcome parents into the school;

(7) (A) Recognize that a parent is a full partner in the decisions that affect his or her child and family.

(B) To encourage a parent to participate as a full partner in the decisions that affect his or her child and family, the school shall:

(i) 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;

(ii) 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; and

(iii) Engage in other activities that the school determines will encourage a parent to participate as a full partner in the decisions that affect his or her child and family;

(8) (A) Recognize that community resources strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning;

(B) To take advantage of community resources, the school shall:

(i) Consider recruiting alumni from the school to create an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement;

(ii) (a) Enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Association or organization that will foster parental and community involvement within the school.

(b) Leaders of this organization shall be utilized in appropriate decisions affecting the children and families; and

(iii) Engage in other activities that the school determines will use community resources to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning; and

(9) Support the development, implementation, and regular evaluation of the program to involve parents in the decisions and practices of the school district, using, to the degree possible, the components listed in this section.

(c) (1) The principal of each school in a school district shall designate one (1) certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator to:

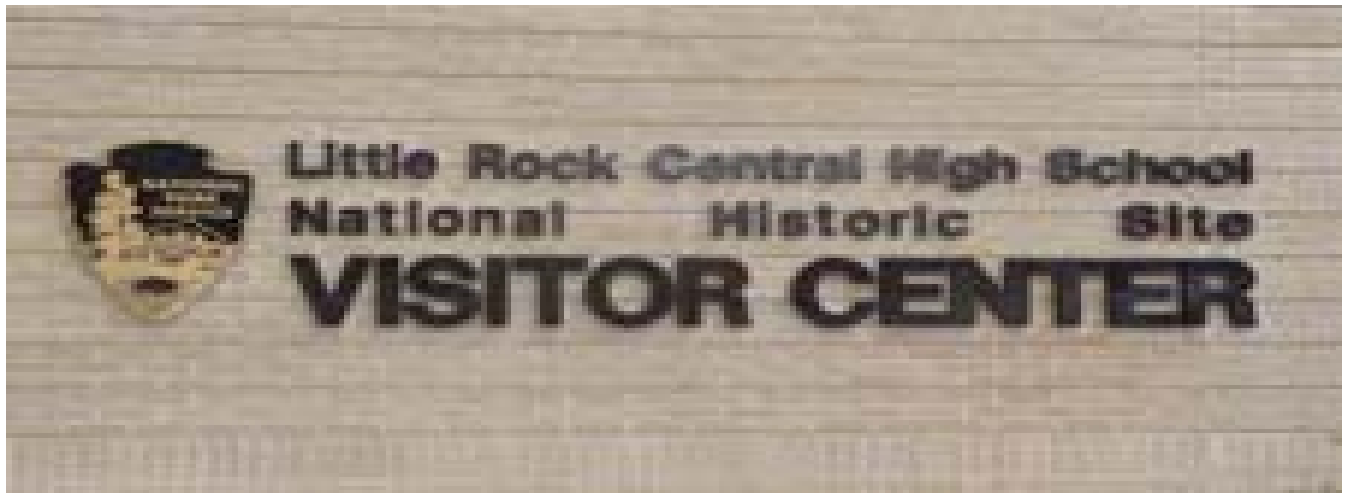
(A) Help organize meaningful training for staff and parents;

(B) Promote and encourage a welcoming atmosphere to foster parental involvement in the school; and

(C) Undertake efforts to ensure that parental participation is recognized as an asset to the school.

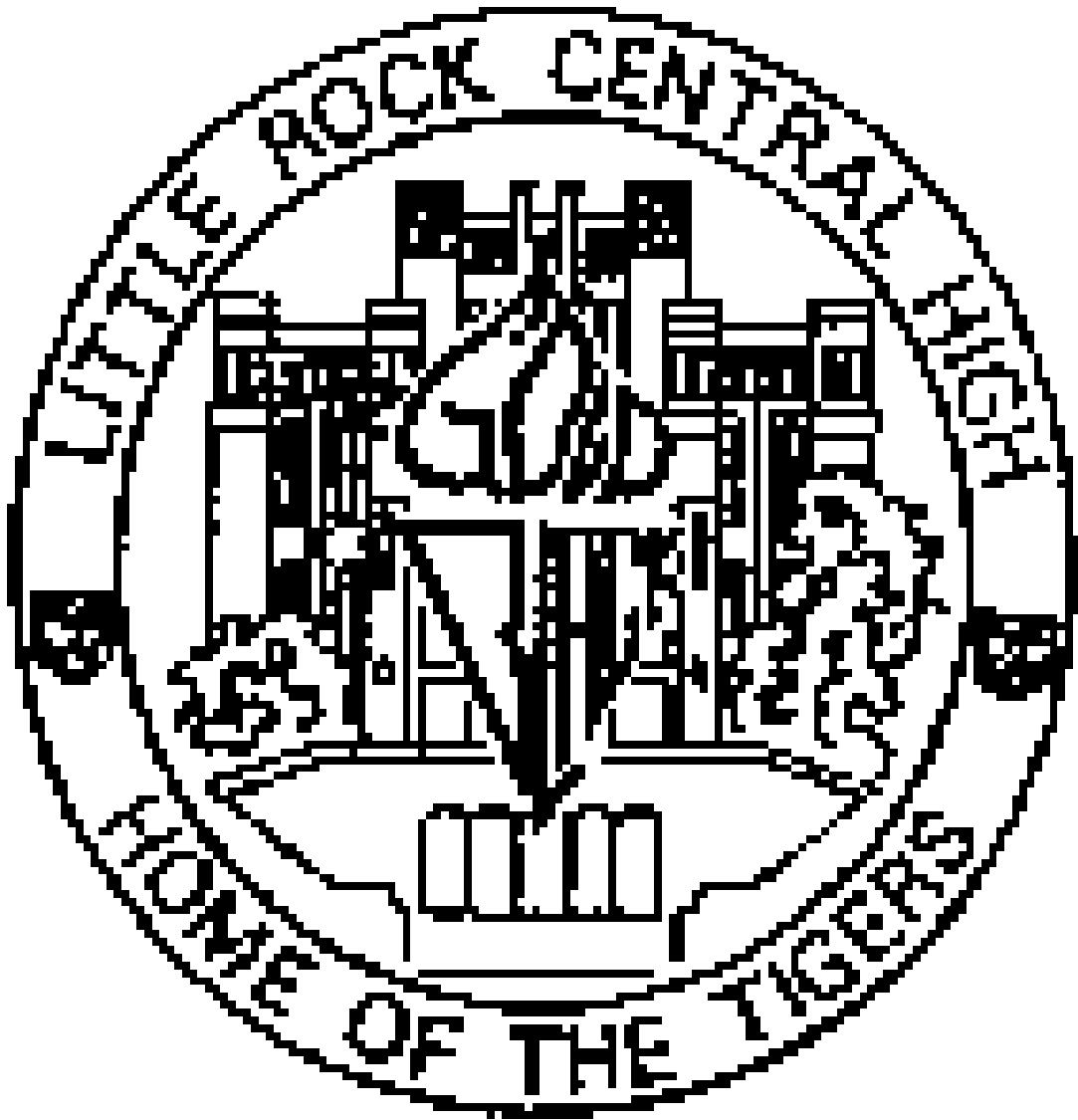
(2) The certified staff member serving as a parental facilitator shall receive supplemental pay for the assigned duties as required by law.

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Little Rock Central High is a school rich with history, academic excellence and diversity. The structure, built in 1927, has been added to the National Register of Historic Places and is also designated by the National Park Service as a National Historic Landmark. At one time it was designated by the American Institute of Architects as "the most beautiful high school in America." In the fall of 2007, two historic anniversaries were observed: the 50th anniversary of "The Central High Crisis of 1957," when the school was desegregated, and the 80th anniversary of the structure itself. These events also coincided with the opening of the new Central High Museum and Visitors' Center at the corner of Daisy Bates Avenue and Park Street.

Tiger Pride – Where Excellence is a Tradition



The 1957 crisis in Little Rock brought about by the desegregation of Little Rock Central High School was a huge part of the march towards freedom and opportunity in America.

-Vic Snyder

Tiger Pride – Where Excellence is a Tradition