



# **Maynard School District Parent and Family Engagement Plan 2021-2022**



The Maynard School District's Parental Involvement Plan consists of the requirements as stated in ACT 603 of 2003 and ACT 397 of 2009.

1. A child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family during the entire time the child spends in school.
2. To support the goal of the schools to educate all students effectively, the schools and parents must work as knowledgeable partners.
3. That although parents are diverse in culture, language, and needs, they are an integral component of a school's ability to provide for the educational success of their children.
4. That engaging parents is essential to improve student achievement.
5. That schools should foster and support active parental involvement.
6. By September 1, 2003, each public school district and each public school within its boundaries, in collaboration with parent, shall establish a parental involvement plan including programs and practices that enhance parental involvement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families.
  - a. The parental involvement program in each school shall involve parents of students at all grade levels in a variety of roles.
    - i. The Maynard School District shall invite and encourage all parents at the elementary and high school levels to be a part of the parental involvement committee that will meet throughout the school year to assist in planning parental events, supporting the teaching staff and students, fundraising events, improving school-home communication efforts, and increasing positive parental involvement within the school district.
    - ii. The parental involvement plan will be placed on the district webpage when approved. Any parent that would like a printed copy of the plan may receive one upon request.
    - iii. The parental involvement committee:
      1. Karla Vandergriff, High School Facilitator
      2. Yvette McMillan, Elementary Facilitator
      3. Cindy Dauck, High School Principal
      4. Lori Steimel, Elementary Principal
      5. Tammy Beaver, Parent
      6. Amber Manning, Parent
      7. Sarah Jones, Parent

- b. Be comprehensive and coordinated in nature.
  - i. All parents will be invited and encouraged to attend meetings, volunteer at school, visit the schools through the principal's office, and assist in our parent center.
  - ii. An annual meeting will be held September 7, 2021 to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs and explain the requirements of the program. Title I, Part A program contacts:  
Karla Vsndergriff, High School  
Yvette McMillan, Elementary  
Contact number 870-647-3500. Any questions regarding Title I, Part A from other school should be directed to the district coordinator, Pat Rawlings.
- c. Recognize that communication between home and school should be regular, two-way, and meaningful.
  - i. A newsletter will be published monthly and posted on the district's Facebook page and webpage. Teachers and building administrators will send home news items with the students throughout the school year as needed. The TAC/HAC technology program has been installed in efforts to inform parents of student progress throughout the school year. News articles and announcements will be published in the local newspaper and announced on the local radio stations to promote better communication efforts. The Maynard School District has installed a communication program through the phone system that will enable the school district to work with the parents via telephone and make contacts regarding important information such as school closings, special events, reminders, etc., throughout the school year.
- d. To encourage communication with parents the school shall prepare family kits, appropriate for the age and grade of the child, describing
  - i. The school's parental involvement program
    - 1. The Maynard School District's Parental Involvement Program will be guided by the evaluation of the parent surveys submitted to all district parents at the October Parent/Teacher Conferences. This survey will assist Parental Involvement Facilitators, Karla Vandergriff and Yvette McMillan in guiding and creating our program and meeting the changing needs of the students and the district.
    - 2. The Parental Involvement Facilitators will conduct an annual review of effectiveness of the parental involvement policies and include parental input.
  - ii. The recommended role of the parent, student, teacher, and school
    - 1. Each participant's role will be described in the school-home compact.

- iii. Ways for the parents to become involved in the school and his or her child's education
  - 1. Parent surveys will be sent home for parents to list their desired ways to volunteer.
  - 2. Parent volunteers may assist with intramural Pee Wee basketball as needed.
  - 3. Parents may volunteer to help during School Night in September during Pioneer Days.
  - 4. Parents may volunteer to help in the Book Fair during the school year.
  - 5. Parent volunteers may help with trips, class, or organizational activities held throughout the year.
- iv. Activities planned throughout the school year to encourage parental involvement
  - 1. Activities will be listed in the elementary and high school parental involvement plans.
- v. 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.
  - 1. Email efforts will be utilized to support teacher and parent communication efforts. Phone calls and written communication efforts will be included. The School Reach phone system has been established to support school-home communication. Parent-teacher face to face contacts will be utilized to support student academic, social and behavioral growth.
- e. To encourage communication with parents, the school shall schedule no less than two parent teacher conferences per school year.
  - i. There will be two parent-teacher conferences held during each school year at the elementary and the high school levels. These conferences will be publicized in the local media, school's website, and notes will be sent home to all parents. The conferences will be held during each semester, and will be held after the first six weeks of classes in order for parents to meet with teachers regarding student progress.
  - ii. The school may plan and engage in other activities determined by the school to be beneficial to encourage communication with parents.
    - 1. Promote and support responsible parenting, the school shall 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.

2. The district has a room allocated for our parent center. It will house parental involvement equipment and supplies to assist parents in helping with projects, technology, and other educational areas that can support the school system as well as providing an inviting and relaxing working environment for parents and grandparents. Parenting materials are also available in each school building to recruit and recognize parental involvement throughout the district.
3. To help parents in assisting students, the school shall schedule flexible “Parental and Family Engagement Meetings”, where parents are given a report on the state of the school and an overview of what students will be learning, how students will be assessed, and what parents should expect for their child’s education and how parents can assist and make a difference in his or her child’s education.
4. Each year, the school hosts an evening inviting the public to an informative meeting where parents are informed about the school’s academic, fiscal, and physical progress. Parenting information is shared to address how the school and family can partner together to help students achieve success during their school years. Reports are sent home throughout the school year that addresses these issues as well. Meetings are held throughout the school year that invites parents to participate in strengthening the partnership between home and school.
5. The Maynard School District coordinates and integrates parental involvement strategies with the Arkansas Better Chance Preschool Program and home instruction.
6. To welcome parents in the school, the school shall not have any school policies or procedures that would discourage a parent from visiting the school, specifically including policies requiring parents to pick-up his or her child outside the school building each day and policies prohibiting the parents from visiting a child’s classroom during school events. Our school district does not have policies of this kind. We welcome parents anytime to visit our campus, classrooms, and come to our events. We only require that they check in at the office to let us know they are visiting our school. We will follow CDC guidelines in regard to COVID.
7. Publish a volunteer resource book, listing the interests and availability of volunteers for school staff members’ use, specifically including survey parents regarding their interests, so volunteer work will be meaningful. Determine how frequently a volunteer would like to participate, including the option of just one time per year, helping at home, and to match school needs with volunteer interests.

8. Parents are surveyed each May to seek input regarding our school district. This input will be reviewed each summer with the leadership team members to discuss goals and action plans for improvement and continued success.
9. Parents are given a copy of the student handbook that lists the chain of command for resolving parental concerns and questions at the beginning of the school year. Newsletters are sent out throughout the school year as a reminder for parents. An order of operations chart is located on our district website to assist in this matter.
10. 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 post-secondary opportunities.
11. The high school counselor and principal will have regular meetings to assist parents and students with course selection, career planning, and post-secondary opportunities. The counselor will keep parents abreast of post-secondary opportunities as they arise throughout the school year through internet, home mailings, and personal meetings.
12. The school shall contact alumni from the school to create an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement. The Maynard School District has established an alumni commission that provides advice and guidance to the school district as well as support and resources. The principal of each school in a district shall designate one certified staff member that is willing to serve as a parent facilitator to organize meaningful training for staff and parents promoting and encouraging a welcoming atmosphere to parental involvement in the school and to undertake efforts to ensure that parental participation is recognized as an asset to the school.
13. Each principal has designated a certified staff member for the 2021-2022 school year to serve as building parent facilitators. The district has appointed Pat Rawlings as the district-wide parent coordinator to work in cooperation with the school facilitators and to guide and lead parenting efforts throughout the district and the community. Each school facilitator will receive a stipend of \$500.00 for their work.
14. All certified staff members, including administrators will receive the required hours (2), (3), for parental involvement professional development training.

15. According to the new law, ACT 969, teachers will receive the required (2) hours of professional development in 2021-2022. The administrators will receive (3) hours in addition to the minimum number of hours of professional development training required 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.
16. The district wide coordinator will enhance the awareness and skills of teachers, pupil service personnel, principals, and staff in reaching out to communicating with, and working with parents as equal partners.
17. Beginning on October 1, 2004, and by each August 1 thereafter, every school district shall review and update the district's parental involvement plan and file a copy of the district's parental involvement plan with the Department of Education.
18. The Maynard School District will review and update the parental involvement plan on or before August 1 of each school year. The plan will be filed with the Department of Education and will appear on our district website.
19. 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 volunteers, the use of and access to 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.
20. Each school district shall provide training at least annually for volunteers who assist in an instructional program for parents, as allowed due to COVID regulations.
21. The district parent facilitator, along with the school building parent facilitators will provide training for all volunteers who assist in an instructional program, as allowed due to COVID regulations.
22. The Department of Education website will be provided to the parents on the school webpage. Assistance will be provided upon request for parents that need assistance locating parenting resources to enhance their parenting skills.