PARENT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT- WEST FORK HIGH SCHOOL (6.12.1)

West Fork High School understands the importance of involving parents, families, and the community as a whole in promoting higher student achievement and general goodwill between the school and those it serves. Therefore, West Fork High School shall strive to develop and maintain the capacity for a meaningful and productive parent, family, and community engagement that will result in partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the school, students, parents, families, and the community. To achieve such ends, the school shall work to:

1. Involve parents, families, and the community in the development and improvement of academic and extracurricular programs for the school;
2. Have a coordinated engagement program where the engagement activities of the school enhance the involvement strategies of other programs;
3. Explain to parents, families, and the community the State's academic and achievement standards, State and local student assessments and how the school's curriculum is aligned with the state's academic standards and assessments, and how parents, families, and the community can work with the school to improve student's academic achievement;
4. Provide parents and families with the materials and training they need to be better able to help their child achieve. The school may use parent resource centers or other community-based organizations to foster parent and family engagement and provide literacy and technology training to parents.
5. Educate school staff, with the assistance of parents, in ways to work and communicate with parents and to know how to implement parent, family, and community engagement programs that will promote positive partnerships between the school and parents, families, and the community;
6. Keep parents, families, and the community informed about parent, family, and community engagement programs, meetings, and other activities they could be involved in. Such communication shall be, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and families can understand;
7. Find ways to eliminate barriers that work to keep parents and families from being involved in their child's education. This may include providing transportation and child care to enable parents to participate, arranging meetings at a variety of times, and being creative

with parent/teacher conferences;
8. Find and modify other successful parent, family, and community engagement programs to suit the needs of our school;
9. Train parents, families, and the community to enhance and promote the involvement of other parents, families, and members of the community;
10. Provide reasonable support for other parental, family, and community engagement activities as parents, families, and the community may reasonably request.

In addition to this policy, the school district has developed a parental involvement plan at both the district level and school building levels, as prescribed by Arkansas Act 603 of 2003. These plans, which are reviewed annually, reflect the district’s commitment to parent involvement including the following components: assisting families with parenting skills, communicating about school programs and student progress, recruiting family volunteers, involving families with learning activities at home, including families in school decision-making and collaborating with the community to coordinate resources and services.

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