Vision Statement
“Inspiring scholars to change the world through community”

Mission Statement
At Little Rock Southwest High Magnet School, we will allow scholars to embrace education through a limitless exploration of integrated skills, knowledge, and creativity.

GOAL STATEMENT
Cultivation – Committing to building scholar interest in learning that serves as a foundation for teaching to be successful
Empowerment – Creating a learning atmosphere that fosters an environment that inspires possibilities and promote creative risk taking
Ownership – Assisting scholars with pursuing their passions and interest so that they will become architects of their own learning

Each scholar will strive to incorporate the CEO goals as they become the boss of their own destiny

Home of the Gryphons
Marvin Burton, Principal
Karisa Allmon, Assistant Principal
**At a Glance**

**Colors:** Green, purple and silver  
**Mascot:** Gryphon - mythological creature that combines the head and wings of an eagle with the body of a lion

**Core Values:**  
Growth Mindset  
Knowledge is Power  
Kindness is Contagious  
Collaborative Culture  
Scholar Centered

**ALMA MATER**

**Verse:**  
The purple, green and silver  
We shall never falter  
For our Alma Mater’s in our heart  
Where it shall never part

**Chorus:**  
Oh Little Rock Southwest High  
We pledge our loyalty  
Oh Little Rock Southwest High  
Forever victory
Little Rock Southwest is a Title I School with 95% of the students on Free and Reduced lunch. We currently have enrolled 1,824 students, grades 9-12, for this upcoming school year.

**Family & Community Engagement Committee**

- Marvin Burton, Principal
- Tagel Muqtasid, Family/Community Liaison
- Sharon Jackson, Parent Facilitator
- Elena Picado, ESOL Liaison
- Heather Childs, Parent
- Monique Sanders
- Antwain Vernon, Parent
- Kenya Vernon, Parent
- Kelly James, Parent
- Maria Garcia, Parent
- Maria, García-Mendiola, Parent
- Jessica Hill, Parent
- Kimberly Young, Parent
- Kimberly Lee, Community
- Josh Bazyk, Community
- Vicky Hatter, Community
Jointly Developed Plan

Little Rock Southwest High School (LRSWHS) has developed a diverse Parent, Family, & Community Engagement Committee made up of school staff, parents, and community members who will review, update, and make necessary changes to the PF&CE Plan annually. The committee has been meeting monthly since November 2019 for the 2020-21 school year to develop a committee, and began working on the PF&CE Plan beginning February 2020. The committee will continue to meet monthly during the 2020-21 school year from September-May. The committee will also disseminate assessments and surveys to be sure the school, parent & family needs are met.

LRSD Parental Policy
The Little Rock School District will support programs, activities and procedures for the engagement of parents and families in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation and engagement with parents and families of participating children.

The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental and family engagement, and expects its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and family engagement means the participation of parents and families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities.

Annual Title I Meeting

Our school will conduct an Annual Title I Meeting in September 2020 for the parents of our students separate from any other meeting or activity to ensure that parents have ample time to be informed about their rights as parents under Title I and the schools participation requirements as a Title I school.

The school shall submit evidence of the Title I meeting by completing the LRSD Annual Title I Verification Form and submitting to the Title I Office by November 2020. During the Annual Title I meeting, parents will have the opportunity to view and receive a copy of the 2020-2021 Parent and Family Engagement Information Packet.

Communications

The Family & Community Engagement Plan (FACE) will be distributed to parents and families by way of hard copies that will be located in our Parent Center and Main Office. We will also distribute plans electronically via our District’s website (www.lrsd.org) and at our parent and family events. Our plan will be available in English and Spanish, due to the
fact that approximately 25% of our students will be Hispanic, and in a language that our parents, family, and community can understand. In our plan there will be information about parent and family engagement events, Parent-Teacher Conference dates, learning opportunities for parents and families, ways to volunteer and stay engaged, contact information for our Parent Facilitator and Parent Coordinator, and office hours. We will include an annual survey and signature page for parents and families to sign upon receiving a copy of the plan. The surveys and signature page can be turned in to the Parent Center by way of mail, electronically, and in-person. The FACE Plan will also offer various meeting times and formats. We understand that it can be difficult for everyone to attend in-person meetings and events and due to the COVID-19 Pandemic there are restrictions on the number of people who can gather together. We will offer online meeting options in both English and Spanish by way of Zoom and pre-recorded videos via social media and our website. Our Bilingual staff will be available to help our Spanish-speaking families at meetings and events, during office hours, and anytime we communicate with our parents and families. Our school will communicate with parents and families by way of various two way communications:

- Parent Link (phone calls, text, email, app)
- Twitter
- Facebook
- YouTube
- Zoom
- Google Hangouts
- Remind App
- District’s Website
- Newsletters, Flyers, and other correspondences
- Univision & Telemundo (Partners)

In light of recent events surrounding COVID-19 our school has taken the initiative to create a Ready for Learning Packet which will be distributed to parents and families and the community. This packet includes information measures taken to ensure the safety and well-being of staff, teachers, and students. Health and safety of everyone who walks through our doors will be our top priority. We understand that your student is your number one concern and we as are each and every one of our families are our main concern. We will offer various virtual experiences for you and your family to take part in so that you don’t miss out on any opportunity or important information. Our goal is to keep all of our families engaged in their student’s academic success. We will offer our virtual experience by way of social media, video conferencing, and our website. This packet will be distributed in both English and Spanish via our schools website, www.LRSD.org, and through email. We will also make sure to have copies available at our school.

Listed below are some activities, events, and programs, but not be limited to, we will offer to our families:
- Open House-Virtual (COVID-19) (August-September 2020)
School Parent Compact

The School-Parent Compact will specifically state the responsibilities parents, students, and school staff and administrators will do to improve student academic achievement and commitment from each level. LR Southwest High School (LRSW) will disseminate the information to all parents and families to ensure that every compact is signed. LRSW will distribute the School-Parent contract to parents and families during Open House, the first week of school, and make available on the school’s website, as well have copies available in the Parent Center and in the main office. The committee, which includes students, parents, staff, & teachers, have had an input in sharing ideas and thoughts on the responsibilities each party will partake in. We have done focus groups for each group mentioned above to develop a compact that all parties are satisfied and content with sharing with others. The goal of all stakeholders is to build a partnership between families and the school to ensure the best academic standards for all students are met. There will be a volunteer resource list to be used in efforts to support families with their student’s academic success as well as encourage families to volunteer as much as possible to assist with efforts also. All parties believe effective two-way communication is important and key for this to work. There will be two scheduled Parent-Teacher Conferences each school year, one in the Fall and the other in the Winter. There will be progress reports available to parents and students every quarter as well the opportunity for teachers, parents, students, and staff to set up meetings as deemed necessary by all stakeholders. Teachers and staff will make themselves available to parents.
and families as will parents to teachers. Parents and families will have the opportunity to observe classroom instruction via virtual, due to COVID-19, and in-person, following guidelines set by the CDC (Center for Disease Control) and AR Health Department. This compact can be found on pages 9-10.

**Reservation of Funds**

During our Annual Title I meeting LR Southwest will inform parents of the Title I Funds allocated for the school and get from parents and families their thoughts and ideas on how they would like to see funds spent as it relates to parent and family engagement. The Little Rock School District received more than $500,000 in funding for Title I, Part A and of those funds that the District receives, LR Southwest High School will receive 1% of those funds. These funds are used to help promote parent and family engagement in the school and in the home.

**Coordination of Services**

LR Southwest High School has adopted a new model for student education, called Ford Next Generation Learning (Ford NGL). This model will change the way students learn, how teachers teach, and will engage the help of the community. Ford NGL encompasses education by way of utilizing the community to support student learning so that students can connect learning with career education. Our school will have community resource list that will connect specific community partners with student’s interest which helps to supports families in their efforts to support their children academically. Our Parent Center will be equipped with resources, programs, activities, and strategies that will support parents and families understanding of college and career readiness opportunities all the while keeping them inspired to remain fully engaged in the students’ academic goals. We will collaborate with our community partners to integrate programs and activities that promote positive parenting, financial literacy, paying for college (scholarships, grants, financial assistance), and college and career readiness workshops, and many other programs.

Our school is committed to having a functional and engaged Parent Teacher Association (PTA) that will help support parents and students in their overall academic objectives. PTA will provide opportunities for families to be engaged in school-related activities and keep families informed on ways to stay connected with the school. This PTA will consist of parents, teachers, and community members, some of which are alumni from McClellan High School and J.A. Fair High School (the two schools that make up LR Southwest High).

LRSW is a member of Johns Hopkins University National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS). The NNPS School, Family and Community Partnership family model is designed to enhance parent participation and involvement in the school and community. The family model is researched based and references engagement, activities, and resources for the six types of involvement: Parenting, Communicating, Volunteering, Student Learning, Decision-Making and Collaborating with the Community. To support the six types of involvement, LRSW
participates on the LRSD NNPS Southwest School Cluster Team. Contact Person: Tagel Muqtasid, Tagel.muqtasid@lrsd.org.

Building Capacity of Parents

LRSW will conduct two (2) state mandated Parent-Teacher Conferences per school year, one per semester, with every parent of every student. Parents will receive test scores, student’s progress, and a summary of interventions being used to assist the student in reaching his/her academic goals.

There will be various workshops, programs, and activities for families to take part in that support and increase parents and families awareness in test scores, academic standards, understanding of assessments and results, positive parenting, strategies to support student learning, resources available to help families with student learning at home, course selection, career planning, and ways to prepare for life after college.

We will provide regularly scheduled Family & Community Engagement (FACE) meetings offered at various times and locations to accommodate parents and family’s availability, and also via different formats such as in-person, video conferencing, and social media as well as in English and in Spanish. LRSW understands that its school is made up of different ethnic backgrounds and many different cultures. We aim to ensure we are culturally diverse in how we communicate with our parents and families and community and in our offerings of programs and activities.

Building Capacity of School Staff

LRSW will conduct two (2) state mandated Parent-Teacher Conferences per school year, one per semester, with every parent of every student. Parents will receive test scores, student’s progress, and a summary of interventions being used to assist the student in reaching his/her academic goals.

LRSW will make sure to follow the state guidelines on providing staff development.

NOTE: STATE LAW FOR THE NUMBER OF HOURS CHANGED A FEW YEARS AGO TO TWO (2) HOURS PER EDUCATOR AND ADMINISTRATOR. HOWEVER, FEDERAL LAWS STATES THAT PD IS ONGOING. 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 their understanding of effective parent and family engagement strategies. No fewer than three (3) hours of professional development for administrators designed to enhance their understanding of effective parent and family engagement strategies and the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental and family participation.

We will offer a minimum of 2 opportunities for Professional Development to teachers during this school year.
It is also our goal to make sure families feel welcomed when they enter into our building. Our teachers and staff will be provided with Professional Development on Customer Service and ways to create a welcoming environment. As partners with our school, parents will have the opportunity to support their students learning by building relationships with their child’s teacher and working with your child’s teacher to ensure the best methods are being used to support how your child learns and to ensure the needs of your child are being met.
School-Parent Compact

Parent-Guardian Agreement

I want my child to achieve and succeed in all of their academic goals. Therefore, I will encourage and support him/her by doing the following:

- Provide a quiet and well lit study area
- Make sure my child attends school regularly and is on time
- Keep open communication with my child’s teachers; build a partnership
- Make sure the school has updated contact information
- Establish study habits and times
- Support and encourage my child’s academic goals and accomplishments
- Be available and engaged in my child’s academic learning process

Student Agreement

It is important that I work to the best of my ability. Therefore, I will commit to do the following:

- Attend school and all classes regularly
- Attend school and classes on time
- Complete homework assignments on time and commit to complete missed assignments
- Come to classes prepared and ready to learn
- Respect administrators, teachers, staff, and peers
- Establish good study habits and a study time

Teacher Agreement

It is important to me that all students have the opportunity to achieve greatness. Therefore, I will do the following:

- Create and implement engaging lessons
- Provide appropriate and meaningful homework assignments
- Come to class prepared to teach
- Provide timely feedback and sufficient turnaround time for assigned work
- Engage in effective two-communication with students and parents
- Be respectful to students, parents, and colleagues
Principal Agreement

I support positive parent engagement. Therefore, I will commit to do the following:

- Provide an environment that allows for positive communication between parents, teachers, and students
- Ensure teachers provide assigned homework that will reinforce classroom instruction consistently
- Ensure high-quality curriculum and instruction that meets the state’s student academic achievement
- Engage parents in parent-teacher conferences, which supports student’s success
- Ensure that parents receive frequent reports on their child’s progress
- Ensure parental access to staff that will support partnerships between home and school
- Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and observe classroom activities and instruction
Six Types of Involvement:
Keys to Successful Partnerships

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

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

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

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

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

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

LRSD Parental Policy

The Little Rock School District will support programs, activities and procedures for the engagement of parents and families in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation and engagement with parents and families of participating children.

The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental and family engagement, and expects its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and family engagement means the participation of parents and families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring —

(A) That parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;

(B) That parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;

(C) That parents and families are full partners in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and

(D) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.
Dear Parent or Guardian,

Our school, Little Rock Southwest High School, receives federal funds for Title I, Part A programs. Throughout the school year, we will be providing you with important information about this law as it relates to your child’s education. This letter lets you know about your right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of the classroom staff working with your child. Our district or school will be able to provide you with the following information regarding the qualifications of your child’s teacher(s):

1. Whether the teacher meets the state’s qualifications and licensing criteria for the grades and subjects he/she teaches.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status because of special circumstances.
3. Whether the teacher is teaching has any advanced degrees and the field of discipline of the teacher’s certification or degree.

If at any time your student has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher(s) that is not highly qualified, then you will be notified by the school. You will also have the right to request information regarding the qualifications of the paraprofessional(s) assisting your child’s teacher(s). If your child is receiving Title I, Part A services from a paraprofessional, then our district or school is able to provide you with the following information:

1. Whether the paraprofessional has completed at least two years of study at an institution of higher education.
2. Whether the paraprofessional has completed an associate’s degree (or higher).
3. Whether the paraprofessional has met a rigorous standard of quality through our state’s certification procedure for determining the quality of paraprofessional staff.
4. Whether the paraprofessional has: (a) the knowledge or ability to assist in instructing reading, writing, and mathematics or (b) the knowledge of and the ability to assist in learning activities, such as homework, reading readiness, writing, mathematics, and other support as appropriate.

To request this information please contact your child’s school by phone at 501-447-9100. Should you have any other additional questions regarding your child’s education, please do not hesitate to contact us at the number listed above.

Sincerely,

Marvin Burton
Principal, Little Rock Southwest High School
Parent Survey- 2020-21

Little Rock Southwest High School

Parent’s First & Last Name

_____________________________________

Email

_____________________________________

For the following questions please circle the best answer(s).

1. What classes would you like to see offered through our Family & Community Engagement?
   A) Financial assistance-student’s college
   B) English Class (Spanish speakers)
   C) Spanish Class (English speakers)
   D) Preparing for life after high school
   E) Communication-How to communicated with your teenager?

2. What ways would you be interested in volunteering at LR Southwest?
   A) Field Trips
   B) Hallway Monitoring
   C) Classroom Assistance
   D) Clerical/Office
   E) Special Events
   F) Other ________________

3. What times are you available to volunteer?
   A) Morning
   B) Lunch
   C) Evening

4. How would you like to be notified of meetings, events, and workshops?
   A) Flyer
   B) Text
   C) Email
   D) Social media

5. What would prevent you from attending a school meeting or function?
   A) Childcare
   B) Transportation
   C) If a function (meeting/activity) was offered in the morning
   D) If a function (meeting/activity) was offered in the evening