

Ockerman Middle School
2026-2027
Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Updated 8/16/2026

Ockerman Middle School is a school-wide Title I school. It is the intent of Ockerman Middle School that the parents of students shall be provided with convenient opportunities for full and on-going participation in the School Wide Title I Program, including opportunities to suggest modifications based on the changing needs of the children, their parents, and the school.

The Ockerman Middle School Wide Title I program shall be designed to assist students to acquire the capacities and achieve the goals established by law, as well as the goals and standards established by Ockerman Middle School. These goals and standards shall be shared with parents (in a timely manner) that will enable them to participate in decisions concerning their child's education and monitor and improve the educational achievement of their child.

Ockerman Middle School shall submit to SBDM, the Boone County Superintendent, and the School Board the School Wide Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy, which must meet all legal requirements. This policy shall be developed jointly with, and distributed by, Ockerman Middle School to all parents.

Building Capacity for Involvement:

Ockerman Middle School shall build capacity for strong parent involvement by:

- Providing assistance to participating parents in understanding national, state, and local goals, standards, and assessments.
- Providing assistance to parents in understanding the School Wide Title I Program and how to monitor their child's performance, as well as information on how parents can participate in the education of their child.
- Providing practical materials and strategies that parents can use to support learning at home, including study skills, executive-functioning strategies, tutoring information, and resources related to Literacy/Reading, Math, and STEAM.
- Providing information about academic placement, advanced/Gifted & Talented opportunities, and how and why students qualify for advanced classes.
- Ensuring, to the extent possible, information sent home is in a language parents can understand. For parents who speak English as a second language, information will be provided in their primary language. For parents who are visually impaired, information will be provided in Braille or in large print.
- Involving parents, where appropriate, in the development and training for teachers and staff for the improvement of instruction and family engagement.
- Using parent feedback to improve communication, including more frequent teacher-to-parent communication, earlier updates about missing work and academic concerns, and positive messages about student success.
- Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, and encouraging partnerships with elementary, middle, and secondary schools.
- Training and supporting parents to enhance involvement of other parents, where appropriate.
- A copy of the Ockerman Middle School School Wide Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy shall be kept on file at the Central Office.

Providing Informational Sessions to Parents:

The Principal, along with SBDM and appropriate school staff, shall provide an annual overview of the Title I Program and the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Information about Title I and opportunities for parent involvement shall be distributed to all parents through multiple communication methods and in advance of the event.

- Because parent survey feedback identified work schedules, transportation, childcare/family responsibilities, and inconvenient event times as barriers, Ockerman Middle School will consider morning, evening, and, when appropriate, Saturday opportunities.
- Evening family engagement events will be considered around 6:00–6:30 PM or later when feasible
- Important event dates and times will be communicated as early as possible through email, text, phone, newsletters/flyers, the school website, and social media when appropriate.

The Parent-School Learning Compact:

The Principal along with SBDM will design a Learning Compact to be signed at the beginning of each school year outlining the responsibilities of students, parents, teachers and the Principal in order to ensure each child's academic success and parent involvement (both in and out of school).

- The compact will address frequent reports to parents on student progress, reasonable access to staff, opportunities to participate in school activities, and regular two-way, meaningful communication.
- The school will use multiple communication methods and provide communication in a language families can understand to the extent practicable.

Parent Survey Results and Family Engagement Priorities:

The Ockerman Middle School parent survey showed a strong foundation of positive parent support. Parents recognized the work of teachers and staff and reported that their children are generally supported and successful. The clearest area for improvement was communication, especially timely and consistent communication from teachers about student progress, assignments, events, and opportunities.

- Parents want more frequent updates from teachers and earlier notice when grades are dropping, assignments are missing, or students are struggling.
- Parents want more information about what students are learning and how they can help at home.
- Parents expressed interest in Literacy/Reading, Math, STEAM, Mental Health, Social-Emotional Skills, Health and Wellness, Arts/Music/Drama, and Parenting Skills.
- Parents identified activities and strategies that help them support their children at home, programs that reach families at home, and professional learning for teachers about parent and family engagement as Title I priorities.
- Ockerman Middle School will use this feedback when planning and revising Title I parent and family engagement activities.

Policy Review and Revision:

Ockerman Middle School will work jointly with parents to review and revise this policy as necessary to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school. Parent survey results and feedback gathered throughout the school year will be considered when reviewing the effectiveness of parent and family engagement activities and determining needed revisions.