Rabun County 21st Century After School Program Parent Orientation 2020-2021



# Welcome to the Rabun County Community of Learners After School Program

On behalf of the faculty and staff, welcome to the Rabun County Community of Learners After School Program. The entire staff is excited and ready to begin academic enrichment in math, reading/language arts, homework and technology. We look forward to another great year.

> Amy Pruitt, Program Director Geneva Abernathy, RCPS Site Coordinator Dr. Gretchen Grant, RCES Site Coordinator Melissa Wolfrey, Data Manager



# Where Do I Find the Handbook?



## Recruitment at RCPS and RCES

- After School applications will be sent home with students. Posters and signs will be on display to promote the after school program. The school website will also post the recruitment flyer.
- A list will be compiled and students will be prioritized based on: enrollment in the program in previous years, siblings, academic needs, and date of application.
- During the course of the school year, teachers will recommend a student for the after school program if the student is at risk of failing due to test scores, grades and RTI/Special Education status.

#### **Recruitment from Private Schools**

- We have two private schools in our school district: Little Way School and Rabun Gap Nacoochee School, and Tallulah Falls School. The Rabun County School District invited representatives of all private schools within our district to a consultation meeting regarding their participation in all federally funded programs for the 2020-2021 school year. Private schools were invited via certified letter.
- This meeting was held in October 2019. No private schools chose to attend the meeting. If the private schools show any interest in the program, the 21st Century program administration will meet with the private schools to share programming information and opportunities for their students.

# Program and Daily Schedule

- The program will begin Monday, November 2, 2020 and is currently scheduled to end May 21, 2020 (depending on missed days and the pandemic).
- We will follow the same calendar as Rabun County Schools.
  - No After School on early release days
- Each day the students will have
  - A healthy supper
  - Fitness
  - Language arts
  - Math
  - Homework time in grades 1-6
  - Enrichment will be provided daily at RCPS and on Friday at RCES.

#### Attendance

- Regular attendance is required.
- Students must attend 4 out of 5 days a week to be considered in regular attendance. (Absences due to COVID do not count against the student.)
- We ask that you do not check students out before 5 pm.
- We will work with you on extenuating circumstances and school sports, but please let us know.
- Excessive checkouts and absences will result in dismissal from the program.



#### Transportation

- There is no bus transportation this year.
- Parent pick up will begin at 5:40pm.
  - Students cannot be checked out after 5:30 pm as this causes safety issues.
- Parent pick up will occur in the front of each school.
- If parents wish to pick up their child before 5:40 pm, they should report to the office and sign the student check-out sheet. Please call the office if someone other that the parent/guardian is picking the student up.



### Communication

- After school staff will communicate with the regular day teachers to assist with their academic needs.
- After school staff will be aware of any accommodations and specific learning needs of students in the program.
- After school staff will have access to grades and other academic information as needed.
- You can expect newsletters and phone calls (if needed) from our after school staff.



# Family Engagement

- We are dedicated to ongoing parent and family engagement.
- Family Engagement events will be virtual this year.
- The annual Parent Extravaganza will be held in February 2020
- Parenting and literacy classes will be offered and are included in the handbook.
- Advisory Council includes parents and students from each site. Let us know if you would like to join.
- Opportunities for parent feedback and input are welcomed.



# **Staff Information**

- All after school employees are mandated reporters which means we are obligated by law to report suspected child abuse.
- All after school employees undergo a national criminal background check each year.
- All after school employees are evaluated by the program director on a regular basis.

# Student Code of Conduct

- The Afterschool program will follow the same rules in place for discipline in each school according to the student handbook.
- The code of conduct applies on school grounds, off school grounds at school functions (including travel).
- In the event a behavior issue occurs, the teacher will have a conversation with the student to resolve the issue. This conversation is documented on each student's behavior referral form. A follow up phone conversation to the parent is documented as well. In the event of multiple behavior referrals, students will lose the opportunity to participate in the program. The site coordinators reserve the right to make immediate decisions concerning discipline depending on the nature and severity of the offense.
- All sites have a three strike rule. Parents will be contacted with each strike.



# Handbook Policies

- Internet and Computer Use
- Student Dress Code
- Emergency Procedures
- Field Trips
- Safety
- Non-Discriminatory Practices
- Complaint Procedures
- Reporting of Misconduct, Harassment, Abuse or Neglect
- Fraud, Waste, Abuse, and Non-compliance



# Please sign the last page of the Student/Parent Handbook and return it to a staff member or complete this <u>form</u> <u>online.</u>

Thank you

