



# Riversink Elementary School

2022-2023

Catherine Cutchen, Principal

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Crawfordville, FL 32327

(850) 926-2664

<https://res.wakullaschooldistrict.org/>

## Parent & Family Engagement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success

### What is it?

This is a plan that describes how Riversink Elementary will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Riversink Elementary values the contributions and involvement of families to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Riversink Elementary will support family engagement and how families can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

### How is it revised?

Riversink Elementary School invites all families to attend our School Advisory Council (SAC) meetings to review and revise this parent and family engagement policy, as well as the school improvement plan, our school-parent compact, and the family engagement budget. The plan is posted on our school website for families to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We distribute an annual survey online to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family engagement. Families can also give feedback during SAC meetings and Title I events.

### Who is it for?

All students participating in the Title I, Part A program and their families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Riversink Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, and of migratory children.

### Where is it available?

The plan will be posted on the district and school websites and families can obtain a hardcopy of the plan in the front office of the school.

### What is Title I?

Being a Title I, Part A school means receiving federal funding to supplement the school's existing programs. These dollars can be used for...

- Identifying students experiencing academic difficulties and providing timely assistance to help these students meet the State's challenging content standards.
- Purchasing supplemental staff, programs, materials, and supplies.
- Conducting parent and family engagement meetings, trainings, and activities.

Title I is the largest federal assistance program for our nation's schools. The amount of money given to each school depends on the number of low-income families enrolled in the school.

### Goals of Title I

- Increase academic achievement.
- Provide direct instructional support to students.
- Provide professional development for teachers.
- Promote parent and family education and involvement.

The main goal of Title I is to provide a higher quality education for EVERY child.



## 2023-2024 District Goals

Wakulla County School District's Five-Year Strategic Plan is on the district's website at [www.wakullaschooldistrict.org](http://www.wakullaschooldistrict.org). Goals are aligned to [Cognia's Performance Standards for K-12](#).

## 2023-2024 Riversink Elementary School Goals

The Schoolwide Improvement Plan (SIP) is refined annually and defines our school's targeted work to raise achievement for all students. The SIP includes key research-based strategies targeting measurable goals based on identified areas of need. To access our SIP, please visit the Florida Department of Education's Continuous Improvement Management System (CIMS) at [www.floridacims.org](http://www.floridacims.org).



## Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Riversink Elementary and our families adopts the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community. These standards are:

1. Welcoming All Families
2. Communicating Effectively
3. Supporting Student Success
4. Speaking Up for Every Child
5. Sharing Power
6. Collaborating with Community

## Parent and Family Engagement

Riversink Elementary believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- That parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

## School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Riversink Elementary and our families will develop a school-parent compact. A compact is a written agreement that families, teachers, and students jointly develop to explain how everyone will work together to ensure all students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from families, students, and teachers. The school-parent compacts are also displayed in each classroom, are shared with parents during parent-teacher conferences, are posted on our district and school websites, and extra copies are always available in the front office. If you would like to provide feedback on the compact any time during the year, please contact James Vernon at (850)926-2664.



# Let's Get Together!

Riversink Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong family engagement. A 'link to learning' is embedded in all Title I events to assist families with understanding the state's challenging standards and ways to help their child achieve mastery.

## 1 Annual Title I Meeting & Event Title– August 2023

Learn about the Title I program and how it helps our school.

## 2 NFL (Night for Family Literacy)– November 2023

Learn about the importance of reading and how to improve your child's reading skills at home.

## 3 Bingo For Books– February 2024

Participate in Bingo and learn literacy tips at the same time.

## 4 STEM– April 2024

Participate in a hands-on STEM activity!

### Parent-Teacher and Student Conferences

Updates on your child's progress are always available by contacting your child's teacher. Conferences will be scheduled as needed/requested and offered at various times throughout the day.



### School Advisory Council (SAC)

Riversink Elementary invites all families to attend SAC meetings to share ideas and ways to involve others to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The

SAC will meet four times during the school year, but parents and family members can also submit their ideas or suggestions at any school activities, meetings, or via email.

If you would like to learn more about the School Advisory Council, please contact Bobbie Scarry at (850) 926-2664 or [bobbie.dotson-scarry@wcsb.us](mailto:bobbie.dotson-scarry@wcsb.us)

#### SAC Dates and Times

Tuesday, August 29, 2023 @ 7:45  
Tuesday, October 13, 2023 @ 7:45  
Tuesday, January 30, 2024 @ 7:45  
Tuesday, April 30, 2024 @ 7:45



# Riversink Elementary is Branching Out!

Riversink Elementary will take the following measures to empower and support parents and family members as an important foundation of our school to strengthen the school and reach our goals.

**We will:**

- Ensure that all information related to school and family programs, meetings, and other activities is posted on the school website and included in the monthly school newsletter for all families. Translated documents will be provided if needed.
- Provide trainings for staff on strategies to improve communication with families and ideas to increase family engagement in all academic areas for our students outside of the classroom.
- Partner with early childhood programs, middle and high schools, college and career ready resources or organizations, parent resource centers, or other programs (as applicable) to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.
- Share information on the school website, school newsletters and at Title I events for families to understand the school’s academic standards and assessments as well as the ways families can monitor their child’s progress and work with educators.
- Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, through phone messages, our website, social media, and flyers.
- Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child’s achievement.
- Collect feedback from parents and family members at all events to continuously improve events to meet parent and family needs.



Riversink Elementary is committed to helping our parents and family members attend the family events listed in this policy. Please call or email us if you need assistance with child care or transportation in order to participate in any of our programs.

James Vernon, Title I Coordinator  
 (850) 926-1234  
 James.Vernon@wcsb.us

## Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you! If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this policy that you feel is not satisfactory with the students’ and the school’s goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the front office:

Name (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

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# Parent and Family Engagement Plan Template Instructions

- 1 Use Ctrl + F to find and replace “Wakulla Elementary” with your school name.
- 2 Update Principal, address, phone number and web address at the top of page 1.
- 3 Enter the name and contact information of the Title I Coordinator at the bottom of page 2.
- 4 On page 3, replace each “Event Title” with the title and date of each of your planned Title I events. Include a brief statement of what your parents will learn as a result of the event like the examples shown. Remember, all events have to have a ‘link to learning’. The goal is to give parents the skills and knowledge to be active participants in their child’s education.
  - You will show the Annual Title I video at the beginning of your first event. This will satisfy the required “Right to Know” information that you are required to present as a Title I school.
- 5 Enter the name and contact information of your SAC Chair and SAC dates and times for the 22-23 school year on the bottom of page 3.
- 6 On page 4, replace the contact information in the box with the Title I Coordinator’s information.
- 7 Once complete, present the draft to your SAC to ask for feedback and suggestions. Make sure you list the PFEP as an agenda item and capture all feedback/input and plan approval (motion) in the meeting minutes.
- 8 Once finalized, submit the PFEP to the Office of Special Programs and Assessment (Krista Sharin and Shelby Peltier).

**You may change colors, pictures, etc. to make it unique to your school. Do not change or delete any information other than the information listed above.**

