

Richlands Elementary School
PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY
2022-2023

Schoolwide Title I Program

The staff at RES believes educating our children should be a continuous collaboration between the home, school, and the community. To ensure parent and family engagement in the planning and implementation of the Title I program, the following activities will be implemented at RES.

Written Policy

RES staff members, parents and families will jointly develop a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy to be distributed annually to parents and families of all children. This document will be distributed to parents and families electronically this year and being part of the school handbook in subsequent years. It will be shared at intake meetings for new students. Review of the policy will occur annually during the March Strategic Planning Team (SPT) meeting with opportunities for input at the school throughout the spring.

Opportunities for Regular Public Meetings

An Annual Fall Meeting will be held in conjunction with Open House to:

- Inform parents and families about the school's facilities and its Title I Schoolwide designation
- Inform parents and families of summary results of the prior year's EOG Testing, if available
- Provide parents and families with an overview of the Title I Program
- Provide parents and families with information concerning parent and family engagement requirements, assessment data, school performance profiles, and forms or methods of measuring students' progress.

Monthly Strategic Planning Team meetings

- To evaluate and/or make improvements on current program or upcoming activities.
- To solicit input from parents and families in the design and implementation of the School Improvement Plan and Parent and Family Engagement policy for the upcoming year.
- To share overall preliminary EOG results, if available, and alert parents and families that individual reports, if available, will be sent home at the end of year in report cards.

Title I Parent Workshops

Title I Parent Workshops will be held during the school year, usually in the evening, to provide continued information, support and resources for all parents and families. Workshops may include topics concerning reading, math, and preventing the summer slide. An informational breakfast meeting will be held annually for the parents of students who receive extra support from the reading specialists. Workshop topics will be determined by the RES needs assessment data and input from families via the Fall Survey. Flexible times will be provided as needed. Parents and families will be strongly encouraged to attend other school events and conferences, volunteer in classroom activities, and observe the Title I program.

Additionally:

- Reading and math instructional information will be disseminated during the year to explain state standards in curriculum and recent assessments, provide strategies to improve student achievement, and explain ways families can monitor student progress, such as weekly folders, progress reports, report cards, phone/email communication, and conferences.
- Parents and families will be notified in advance of the scheduled activities.
- Parents and families may request additional meetings with staff members to address questions or comments.
- Instructional plans and assessment information will also be communicated to parents and families through newsletters, weekly planners, and teacher websites.
- Parent information pages from the Ready Math workbook are sent home at the beginning of each math unit in grades K-5; these handouts include activities parents can do at home to support the math standard.

Coordination with Other Programs

We will meet our goals of establishing liaisons and maintaining communication with other school programs and other related external agencies and organizations through collaboration and coordination with individuals in those groups and through the following actions:

- Notifying parents and families of various resources from outside agencies and churches that provide financial assistance. Referrals are provided, as needed, to other community agencies.
- Inviting participation by adults from the community into school assemblies and programs with notification via flyers and social media.
- Enabling distribution of food donated by local churches that fill backpacks provided by The United Way CHEW program.
- Supporting participation in school events sponsored by the library/media center, art, music, and physical education teachers at our school.
- Hosting Clinical Teacher Interns and Clinical Nursing students from East Carolina University, UNCW, and Mount Olive College, as available, in our classrooms and school to help prepare them as highly qualified teachers and nurses.
- Accessing mental health services, as needed, through the integrated Mobile Crisis Team in Jacksonville.
- Working with PRIDE of NC Counseling Services to provide therapeutic services in the schools, as needed.
- Enabling students to participate in Science Olympiad at the district and potentially the state level
- Fostering creative giftedness through student participation in Odyssey of the Mind through competition at the regional, and potentially state and world level
- Encouraging the love of reading through student participation in Battle of the Books competition at the county and potentially regional and state levels
- Exploring the world through competition in the school, district, and potentially national level
- Sponsoring the STRIDE/Girls on the Run program
 - STRIDE/Girls on the Run is a fun fitness and character development program for students in grades 3-8. Throughout the program, the focus is on doing one's personal best, not competing with each other. Students have the chance to share their thoughts and opinions in various life topics such as positive sportsmanship, goal setting, bullying and making healthy choices. Volunteer coaches will guide and mentor the boys through an uplifting curriculum while the boys work together in training for a 5K event.

Opportunities for Parents of English learners and Students with Disabilities

Once a need is identified, we will attempt to assist parents and families with limited English proficiency and parents and families with disabilities in the opportunity to participate in their children's educational curriculum and environment.

- Spanish version of district forms will be provided through Federal Programs office at Central Services.
- Important school level documents will be translated into the home language of families, as necessary.
- The Exceptional Children (EC) Department provides a Spanish translation of the parent's legal rights document.
- EC testing will occur in what is determined to be the student's primary language.
- All parents will be invited to participate on school committees and encouraged to join the Parent Teacher Organization
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Coordination and Integrating Parent Involvement

At RES, we coordinate our programs and activities with the following staff and programs to support parent and family participation in the education of their children:

- Head Start
- English Language Learners/EL District leaders
- School nurse, counselor, military liaison, social worker
- Parent Teacher Organization
- Public preschool
- Parent and Family Resource Center
- Onslow County Schools/Preschool Information Transition Fair
- Public Library Partnership