

R.J. Vial Elementary School



Title I Parent Handbook

2024-2025

Title I Parent Handbook

Overview of Title I

In 1965, the United States Congress passed the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to improve the quality of education in the United States. Since the initial authorization, Congress has added to and reauthorized the act five times. The previous version of the law, the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, was enacted in 2002. NCLB represented a significant step forward for our nation's children in many respects, particularly as it shined a light on where scholars were making progress and where they needed additional support, regardless of race, income, zip code, disability, home language, or background. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was enacted December 10, 2015. This latest reauthorization creates a better law that focuses on the clear goal of fully preparing all scholars for success in college and careers.

Title I of The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) remains the largest federal aid program for education in the country. To receive these funds from the federal government each state must submit a detailed plan describing what all children are expected to know, the standards of performance that all scholars are expected to meet, as well as ways to measure scholars' progress. The Louisiana Department of Education allocates money to the St. Charles Parish Public School District based on the number of low-income families living in the parish. The district sends funds to schools with the highest percentage of economically disadvantaged scholars. These schools identify scholars most in need of educational help, set annual goals for improvement, measure student success, develop programs that add to the regular education programs, and collaboratively work with parents in all aspects of their scholar's education. Parents, administrators, and teachers evaluate the district and school plans annually and revisions are made based on the most current data, and school needs.

Title I in St. Charles Parish

The Title I Program in St. Charles Parish believes that all students are or can become scholars. A scholar is described as a learned person who has exhibited accelerated learning competencies and/or possesses high content knowledge of particular subjects. SCP will provide access and opportunities for **all** student to accelerate, with expectations of them becoming scholars. We support acceleration in reading for scholars in kindergarten through 8th grade and four early childhood classes, two at each Title 1 schoolwide elementary schools. At the middle school level, Title I supports math interventions at Albert Cammon, and R.K. Smith middle schools. The Title I Program also has established Family Learning Centers at the Title I Schools.

The Family Learning Centers enhance student achievement by providing parent workshops (both academic and social/emotional), Literacy Play Groups, home visits, materials for check out and general support for families.

St. Charles Parish has shifted to a schoolwide district. The schoolwide program is authorized under Title 1, Part A. It is a service delivery model for Title 1 schools that allows schools to support costs associated with **whole school improvement** to raise the achievement of **all** students, particularly working below grade level standards/benchmark.

The Title I program gives selected scholars the opportunity to move ahead using many different teaching methods. These include individual instruction, small group instruction, and computer assisted instruction. Highly qualified Title I teachers provide opportunities for scholars to experience success in reading and math so that lifelong skills are developed and negative attitudes toward reading and math are minimized or eliminated. Title I teachers work closely with classroom teachers to ensure the success of each student.

Current Title I Programs for scholars include the following:

- Tier III intervention program focused on assisting the most at risk K-3 grade scholars to accelerate in Phonemic Awareness and Phonics support.
- Tier II reading intervention support with the use of the core that reinforces student learning of the foundational skills necessary for reading on grade level text.
- Math intervention instruction at the middle school level that focuses on intrinsically motivating scholars, developing their number sense and grade level standards, understanding of operations and fractions, understanding of ratios and proportional reasoning, and arithmetic of rational numbers using small group instruction

Parent and Family Engagement

Studies over the past three decades have shown that children whose parents/families are involved in school activities have higher achievement scores. By taking an active role in your scholar's school, you show your child that you and the school are a team working together to increase their success.

What is parent and family engagement?

Parent and family engagement is a parent's/family's active participation in the educational life of their child. Getting your child to school every day is parent engagement. Helping out in your scholar's class is parent engagement. Attending meetings, workshops, and activities sponsored through Title I and the school is parent engagement. Serving on committees is parent engagement. **Family engagement is an empowering partnership among families, educators, practitioners, and the community with shared responsibility for the personal success of children and youth.**

Why do parents and families need to be involved?

- Parents and families need to understand ways to support their scholar's in academic content and social emotional learning.
- Parents and families need to understand, that just as scholars have changed, teaching techniques and methods have also changed to meet the demands of today's scholars. By observing in your scholar's class, you can see firsthand how children are being taught and ways to support the school's effort.
- When children realize that their parents and families consider school activities important enough to visit, observe, and participate, they recognize learning is important.
- A scholar's self-confidence is based on how well he/she learns what he/she is supposed to learn. Research findings point to positive academic achievements as self-esteem builders.
- The Title I program and the school need parents and families to be involved. Team work will help all children perform to their highest potential.

How do I get involved?

The easiest way to get involved is to talk to your scholar's teacher or visit the Family Learning Center at your scholar's school. **As your scholar's first teacher**, you can assist the teacher in meeting many of your scholar's needs. Establishing a friendly open and honest relationship with your scholar's teacher is the first step. The Family Learning Center is your place to ask questions, get involved, clarify information and get to know the school. Become a school volunteer! Parents are always welcome and encouraged to participate.



BUILDING LITERACY SKILLS AT HOME



It is never too early (or late) to start doing literacy activities with your child. Strong literacy skills are essential for development and provide a foundation for school and work performance, social skills, and solving problems in all subject areas. Just a few minutes spent each day on simple literacy activities can add up to a lifelong love of reading and learning! These literacy-based activities are great for your preschool or early elementary age child.

READING

♥ READ EVERY DAY!

Getting into the habit of reading every day for at least a few minutes is helpful for your child's development.

♥ THINK ALOUD AS YOU READ.

Point out what you see in the pictures. Talk to your children about what you are reading. What did they like about the story? What didn't they like?



WRITING, DRAWING, & CREATING

♥ EXPLORE FEELINGS.

Creativity and ideas can be expressed by drawing pictures.

♥ BE CREATIVE.

Paper, crayons, markers, glue, and even household items like noodles, boxes, and sponges can be great tools for creativity.

♥ MAKE STORIES.

Encourage your child to "tell stories" to you. Write their story down for them in a booklet (just a few pages of stapled paper is fine!), and have them illustrate their story.

♥ PLAY "FIRST, NEXT, LAST."

Have pictures of different scenes from stories you read, and have your child sequence the events using the pictures. Have them retell the story.

♥ PAINT WORDS WITH WATER.

Get a clean paintbrush and small bucket of plain water. Go outside and let your child paint letters or words on the walls, sidewalk, or fence.

SPEAKING & LISTENING

♥ BUILD VOCABULARY.

Talk with your child about everything. Describe the world around them in real (adult) terms.

♥ EXPLORE RHYMES AND SONGS.

These can expose new words and develop speaking skills.

School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

In accordance with the Parent Engagement Practices of the St. Charles Parish Public School District, we at R.J. Vial Elementary School believe that parents are their child's first and most important teacher. We want to involve parents as much as possible in the education of their children. Using the standards, which are aligned with the National Network of Partnership Schools Research, we have a broad focus on parent involvement, which includes the following standards and activities:

1. Communicating

- a. School and District Websites
- b. Parent and Student Handbook
- c. Parent Teacher Organization
- d. Weekly Messages
- e. Connect-Ed messages
- f. School Status messages
- g. Reminders of upcoming events
- h. Communication Folders
- i. Progress Reports
- j. Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram)
- k. Report Cards

2. Support Families

- a. Family Education Sessions
- b. Parent Teacher Organization
- c. Resources to check-out
- d. Meet and Greet
- e. Open House
- f. Literacy Night
- g. Wetland Watcher's Night
- h. Young Author's Celebration

3. Supporting Learning

- a. Google Classroom**
- b. One to one devices**
- c. Parent Teacher Conferences**
- d. Open House**
- e. Young Author's Celebration**
- f. Resources sent home**

4. Volunteering

- a. Volunteer Work Days**
- b. School Events**
- c. Concessions/Snack sales**
- d. Student Appreciation Week**
- e. Teacher Appreciation Week**
- f. Field Trips**
- g. Cajun Open House**

5. Advocacy

- a. Parent participation in SBLC**
- b. Parent participation in conferences**
- c. Parent representation on subcommittees and School Improvement Team**
- d. Counselor & Mental Health Profesional partnering with families and students**
- e. Faculty/Staff mentors to support students**

6. Collaborating with the Community

- a. Guest Speakers**
- b. Partner-in-Education Readers**
- c. Active involvement of Partner in Education**
- d. RJV Mardi Gras Parade**
- e. Child Find**
- f. Student Performances**

St. Charles Parish Schools Parent and Family Engagement Policy

The St. Charles Parish School Board recognizes that parent and family engagement is essential as we partner to educate our district's scholars and prepare them for life-long learning. This responsibility is shared by the family, school, district and community who must work together as knowledgeable and collaborative partners. It is the intention of the district to cultivate and support active family involvement that supports student learning.

I. For schools receiving Title I Part A funding, the St. Charles Parish School Board:

A. Involves parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency's (LEA) Title I, Part A plan, and the development of school support and improvement plans.

B. Provides the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the LEA in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities that improve student academic achievement and school performance. This may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education.

C. Coordinates and integrates parent and family engagement strategies to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.

D. Conducts, with the meaningful engagement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, including identifying:

- 1. Barriers to greater participation by parents/families in activities authorized by this section (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background);**
- 2. The needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and**
- 3. Strategies to support successful school and family interactions;**

E. Uses the findings of such evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies described in this section.

F. Involves parents in the activities of the schools, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the LEA to adequately represent the needs of the population. This advisory board will help develop, revise, and review the parent and family engagement policy.

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The St. Charles Parish School Board recognizes that parent and family engagement is essential as we partner to educate our district's scholars and prepare them for life-long learning. This responsibility is shared by the family, school, district, and community, who must work together as knowledgeable and collaborative partners. The district intends to cultivate and support active family involvement that supports student learning.

- I. For schools receiving Title I Part A funding, the St. Charles Parish School Board:
 - A. Involves parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency's (LEA) Title I, Part A plan and the development of school support and improvement plans.
 - B. Provides the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the LEA in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities that improve student academic achievement and school performance. This may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education.
 - C. Coordinates and integrates parent and family engagement strategies to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.
 - D. Conducts, with the meaningful engagement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, including identifying:
 1. Barriers to greater participation by parents/families in activities authorized by this section (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background);
 2. The needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers and
 3. Strategies to support successful school and family interactions;
 - E. Uses the findings of such evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental and family engagement and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies described in this section.
 - F. Involves parents in the activities of the schools, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the LEA to adequately represent the needs of the population. This advisory board will help develop, revise, and review the parent and family engagement policy.

Parents' Right to Know

As mandated by federal law, you have the right to request information about the qualifications of anyone who instructs your child. If you request this information in writing, the school district will provide you with information about the teacher's certification. If your child is provided services by paraprofessionals, then the school district will provide you with information about their qualifications.

You can also find out about a teacher's certification on the Internet. Just visit the Louisiana Department of Education's web site at www.teachlouisiana.net and click on the Teacher Certification Center. To enquire about a teacher's certification, select Public Access, then enter the teacher's name to view the areas of certification.

If you have questions you can contact the school or call the Title I office at 985-785-3163.

Derechos de los Padres de Familia

Por mandato de la ley federal, usted tiene el derecho de pedir informacion acerca del grado educativo de cualquier persona que de instruccion a su hijo. Si usted pide estos datos por escrito, el distrito escolar le dara dicha informacion sobre la certificacion de cualquier maestro. Si su hijo recibe servicios de un asistente escolar, el distrito escolar tambien le puede dar informacion sobre el nivel academico de dicha persona.

Tambien se puede averiguar el nivel educativo de un maestro por medio de la Internet. Visite el Website del Departamento de Educacion de Louisiana, www.teachlouisiana.net. Apriete donde dice Teacher Certification Center. Para averiguar el nivel educativo de un maestro, apriete donde dice Public Access, escriba el nombre del maestro y podra averiguar las areas en la cuales este certificado a enseñar.

Si tiene alguna pregunta llame al la escuela de su hijo o a la oficina Title I, numero 985-785-3163.

Grievance Policy and Procedures

The Title I Program welcomes constructive criticism of the program whenever it is motivated by a sincere desire to improve the quality of the program. All complaints should be submitted in writing. If writing is a problem, appropriate assistance can be given at any level. The proper channeling of complaints involving instruction, discipline, or programs is listed below.

1. The Title I, classroom teacher, and counselor can help with questions and concerns about children's needs.
2. The school administrators can provide information about programs, curriculum, rules and staff at the scholar's school.
3. The District Title I Director and/or coordinator directs the local Title I program.
4. The Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment can answer questions about curriculum matters including testing.
5. The Director of Elementary Schools can answer questions about district-wide programs.
6. The Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services can answer questions about district-wide programs, policies, and procedures.
7. The Superintendent can also answer questions about district-wide programs, policies, procedures, and budgets.
8. The State Title I Director can provide information on state programs and policies.

For more information see the district's grievance policy on our web site at www.stcharles.k12.la.us.

Information can be readily found through the State Department of Education's web site at

<http://www.louisianabelieves.com/>.

The National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement (NAFSCE) offers information, training, and other assistance. They can be reached by contacting them at the address below.

The National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement (NAFSCE)

<http://nafsce.org>

Parents,

After reviewing the policies, procedures, and general information in this handbook with your child, please sign this document digitally using the PimsPoints Platform. (More information about PimsPoints can be found below.) If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the school at **(985)758-2771**.

Sincerely,

Christina Mullins, Principal

St. Charles Parish Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability.

I have read and understand the **R.J. Vial Elementary School** Title I Handbook, including:

- Description of the Title I Program
- School Parent and Family Engagement Plan
- District Parent and Family Engagement Policy
- Parents Right to Know

This document will be signed and collected using the PimsPoints Digital Platform.

What is PimsPoints?

Please view the informational video using the QR Code to learn about the PimsPoints Digital Platform. On this platform, you can earn points and redeem them for exciting rewards from schools and local businesses.



Use the QR Code below to download the PimsPoints app.



Los padres,

Después de revisar las pólizas, los procedimientos y la información general de este manual con su hijo, firme este documento digitalmente utilizando la plataforma PimsPoints. (Puede encontrar más información sobre PimsPoints a continuación). Si tiene alguna pregunta o inquietud, no dude en comunicarse con la escuela al **(985)758-2771**.

Sinceramente,

Christina Mullins, Principal

Las Escuelas Públicas de la Parroquia de St. Charles no discriminan por raza, color de piel, nacionalidad, orientación sexual y/o discapacidad.

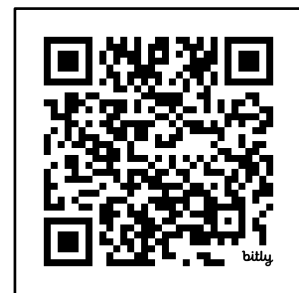
He leído y entiendo el Manual del Título I de la **R.J. Vial Elementary School** incluyendo:

- Descripción del Programa Título I
- Plan de Participación de Padres Escolares
- Política de Participación de Padres de Distrito
- Derecho de los padres a saber

Este documento será firmado y recogido utilizando la Plataforma Digital PimsPoints

¿Qué es PimsPoints?

Vea el video informativo usando el código QR para conocer la plataforma digital PimsPoints. En esta plataforma, puede ganar puntos y canjearlos por interesantes recompensas de escuelas y empresas locales.



Utilice el código QR a continuación para descargar la aplicación PimsPoints.

