Ridgeway High School 2026-2027 Annual Title I & Family Engagement Meeting

Ridgeway High School

September 1, 2026

Dr. Phillip Nelson

Why are we here?

- The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that each Title I school hold an annual meeting of Title I families in order to:
  - inform you of your school's participation in Title I,
  - explain the requirements of Title I, and
  - explain your rights as parents and family members to be involved.

What will I learn?

- What is a Title I school?
- What are my rights?
- What can Title I funds be used for?
- How does our school use Title I funds?
- What is the SIP?
- What are our schoolwide program goals?
- How is parent and family engagement funded?
- What is the Parent and Family Engagement Policy?
- What is the School-Parent Compact?
- What curriculum does our school use?
- What tests will my child be taking?
- How can I be involved?
- Who can I contact for help?

What is a Title I school?

Title I was passed in 1965 under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). It is the largest federal assistance program for our nation's schools.

Title I schools receive extra funding (Title I dollars) from the federal government. These dollars are used to:

identify students experiencing academic difficulties and provide assistance to help these students;	purchase additional staff, programs, materials, and/or supplies; and	conduct parent and family engagement meetings, trainings, events, and/or activities.



What can Title I funds be used for?

- In general, Title I funds may be used for:
  - additional paraprofessionals,
  - additional training for school staff,
  - extra time for instruction (before and/or after school programs),
  - parent and family engagement activities, and/or
  - a variety of supplemental teaching materials, equipment, and technology.

How does our school use Title I funds?

- In 2026-2027, our school was allotted approximately $414,784.94 in Title I funding.
- We developed a **Schoolwide Program**, which means we plan to spend our funds on the following:
  - Supplemental staff:
    - PLC Coach
    - Guidance Counselors
    - Education Assistants
    - Behavior Specialist
  - Programs/Materials/Supplies:
    - Instructional supplies such as pens, pencil paper, technology, binders, folders, etc.

What is the SIP?

- The SIP is the School Improvement Plan. It includes:
  - the identification of the school planning team and how they will be engaged in the planning process;
  - a needs assessment and summary of academic and non-academic data;
  - prioritized goals, strategies, and action steps to help address the academic and non-academic needs of students;
  - teacher and staff professional development needs; and
  - budgets and the coordination of resources.
- The school must include family representatives on our school planning team.

  [NOTE: While families must be involved in the SIP process, the school can determine who is involved and does not have to include all families. It is, however, best practice to have family representation on the SIP team that reflects the population and diversity of the school community.]

What are our schoolwide program goals?

By May 2029, Ridgeway High School will increase the percentage of students who score proficient in grades 9-12 ELA from 32.5% (2026) to 47.5% (2029) with improved ELA outcomes for all students Students with Disabilities (SWD), and English Learners (ELs).

By May 2029, Ridgeway High School will increase the percentage of students in grades 9–12 who score proficient in mathematics from 15.0% in 2026 to 30.0% in 2029, with improved mathematics outcomes for all students, Students with Disabilities (SWD), and English Learners (ELs).

By May 2029, Ridgeway High School will increase the percentage of students meeting Ready Graduate requirements, in grades 9-12 from 50.1 % (2026) 65.1% (2029) with improved outcomes for all students Students with Disabilities (SWD), and English Learners (ELs). SWD, and ELLs..

What is our school's designation status?

- In accordance with Tennessee's accountability system, the Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE) determines designations for all public schools. Designations include:
  - **Reward Schools:** Recognizes schools with high levels of performance or student growth, including the top 5% of schools.
  - **CSI (Comprehensive Support and Improvement):** Also known as Priority schools, these are identified for being in the bottom 5% of overall performance or having a graduation rate below 67%.
  - **TSI/ATSI (Targeted/Additional Targeted Support and Improvement):** Also known as Focus schools, these are identified when specific student groups underperform.

  Ridgeway High School is a Non-Designated High School

What is the State Report Card?

TDOE releases an annual Report Card on Tennessee schools.

This report displays state-, district-, and school-level data for each school year.

It includes information on demographics, achievement, academic growth, attendance, graduation rate and more.

You can view the data statewide, or you can choose a specific district or school.

You can view the report card here:

- https://www.tn.gov/education/families/report-card.html

What curriculum does our school use?

The Tennessee Academic Standards provide a common set of expectations for what students will know and be able to do at the end of a grade for each subject area.

Tennessee's academic standards form the framework for everything taught at *Ridgeway High School*

For more information about Tennessee's academic standards, see: Academic Standards

What curriculum does our school use?

Ridgeway High School uses the following curricula to guide students toward mastery of state standard per grade level:

ELA (Readind) – Savvas Realize

Math – Envision Mathematics

Science – TN Science

RTI^2-A – i-Ready

What tests will my child be taking?

9th Grade Assessments: Students will take the Pre-ACT

Algebra I and English I End-of-Course (EOC) exams and the Pre-ACT

10th Grade Assessments: Students will take the Pre-ACT

Gemeotry and English II End-of-Course (EOC) exams and the Pre-ACT

11th Grade Assessments: Students will take the ACT and Algebra II and U.S History

Also, students in Advance Academic will take the AP Exam and IB Exam

What is parent and family engagement?

Family engagement is a **shared responsibility** in which schools and other community agencies and organizations are committed to reaching out to engage families in meaningful ways and in which families are committed to actively supporting their children's learning and development.

Family engagement is **continuous** across a child's life and entails enduring commitment but changing family roles as children mature into young adulthood.

Effective family engagement cuts across and reinforces learning in the **multiple settings** where children learn – at home, in pre-kindergarten programs, in school, in after-school programs, in faith-based institutions, and in the community.

Source: The National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement (https://nafsce.site-ym.com/page/definition)

What is parent and family engagement?

- "Through effective communication with parents, teachers can have the greatest impact on their day-to-day success with students. With parents on their side, teachers can more effectively manage most academic and behavioral issues that arise. When the most important adults in a child's life are working together, students benefit enormously."

—Lee and Marleen Canter

Source: *Parents on your Side: A Teacher's Guide to Creating Positive Relationships with Parents*

What is a Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

- These plans address how the district and school will implement the parent and family engagement requirements of ESSA. Components should include:
  - how parents and families can be involved in decision-making and activities;
  - how parent and family engagement funds are being used;
  - how information and training will be provided to families; and
  - how the school will build capacity in families and staff for strong parent and family engagement.
- You, as a Title I parent or family member, have the right to be involved in the development of these plans.

What is a Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

- The school Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be shared September 1, 2026 in our Title I Meeting. In addition, the policy can be found here:

https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1769191002/xxreupnqmnk2fcjaqoof/Family_Engagement_Plan_25-26.pdf

How is parent and family engagement funded?

Any district with a Title I allocation exceeding $500,000 is required by law to set aside 1% of its Title I allocation for parent and family engagement.

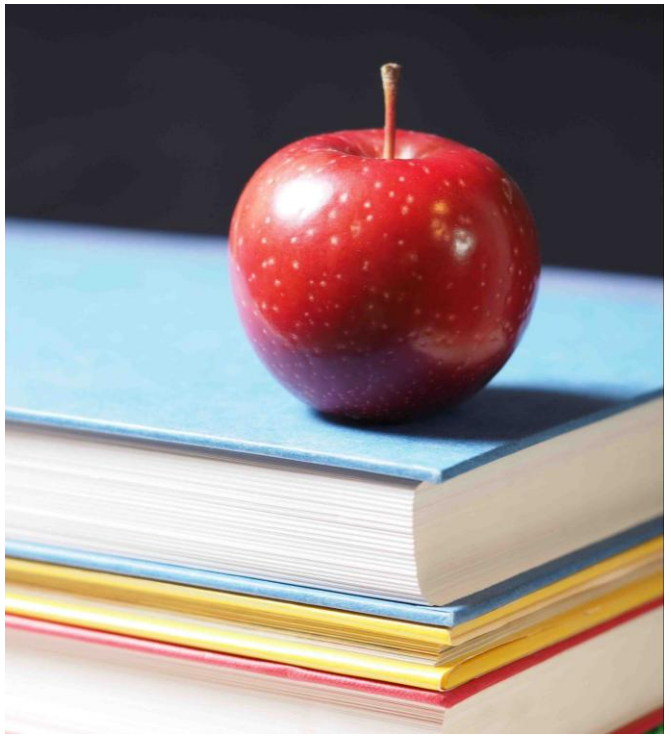
Of that 1%, 10% may be reserved at the district for system-wide initiatives related to parent and family engagement. The remaining 90% must be allocated to all Title I schools in the district.

You, as Title I parents and family members, have the right to be involved in how this money is spent.

How is parent and family engagement funded?

- In 2026-2027 we received approximately $4,930.93 in parent and family engagement funding. We plan to use these funds for:
  - Parent and Family Engagement Meeting and Events
  - Annual Title I Meeting
  - Optional School Night
  - FAFSA Night
  - Family Math Night

- Materials/Supplies
  - Agenda Books
  - Supplies for Meeting



What is a School-Parent Compact?

A school-parent compact is a written commitment that outlines how the entire school community – teachers, families, and students will share the responsibility for improved academic achievement.

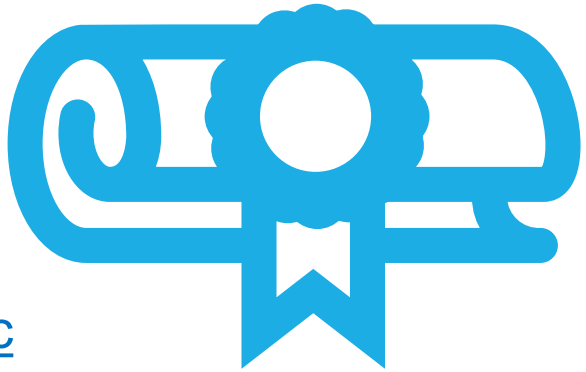
The compact must describe how the school will:

- provide high-quality curriculum and instruction;
- hold parent-teacher conferences, annually in elementary schools;
- provide parents with reports on their child's progress;
- provide parents reasonable access to staff.
- provide parents opportunities to volunteer; and
- ensure regular two-way meaningful communication between family members and staff, to the extent practicable, in a language family members can understand.

You, as a Title I parent or family member, have the right to be involved in the development of the compact.

What is a School-Parent Compact?

- The school-parent compact will be shared September 1,2026 In addition, the compact can be found here:
  - Ridgeway High School; English and Spanish, and list any other places families can find the compact]



- https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1769191201/afho2bzeb2ki1774c5jg/RHS_School_Compact_25-26.pdf -

- https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1769191048/ury5k1k9gwpzntvztdw5/Family_Engagement_25-26_Spanish.pdf

What are the benefits of family engagement?

For students:

- Higher grades and test scores
- Better attendance
- More positive attitudes and better behavior
- Higher graduation rates
- Greater enrollment in postsecondary education

For Parents and Families:

- More confidence and trust in the school
- Increased confidence in their parenting skills
- Creates a home environment that encourages learning
- Encourages families to form stronger relationships with teachers and other families

For Schools and Teachers:

- Improved teacher and staff morale
- Higher ratings of schools and teachers by families
- More support from families
- Higher student achievement
- Increased and improved relationships within the community

How can I be involved?

- We need you! Research has proven that family engagement in education has more impact on student achievement than any other factor.
- To get involved with the SIP, contact Rhonda Kendall, PLC Coach. SIP meeting dates will be sent out via flyers.
- To get involved with the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, contact Rhonda Kendall PLC Coach at (901) 416-8820.
- To get involved with the School Parent Compact, contact Rhonda Kendall PLC Coach at (901) 416-8820.

How can I be involved?

Supporting and encouraging regular school attendance by helping children establish consistent routines, emphasizing the importance of being present and engaged in school, and addressing barriers that may interfere with regular attendance.

Monitoring academic progress and schoolwork through online systems or school portals by regularly reviewing grades, assignments, attendance records, teacher feedback, upcoming deadlines, and other information to stay informed about the child's academic performance and provide support when needed.

Attending family events, parent-teacher conferences, school meetings, and other school activities to stay connected with teachers, administrators, and other families and to better understand the child's educational experience and opportunities.

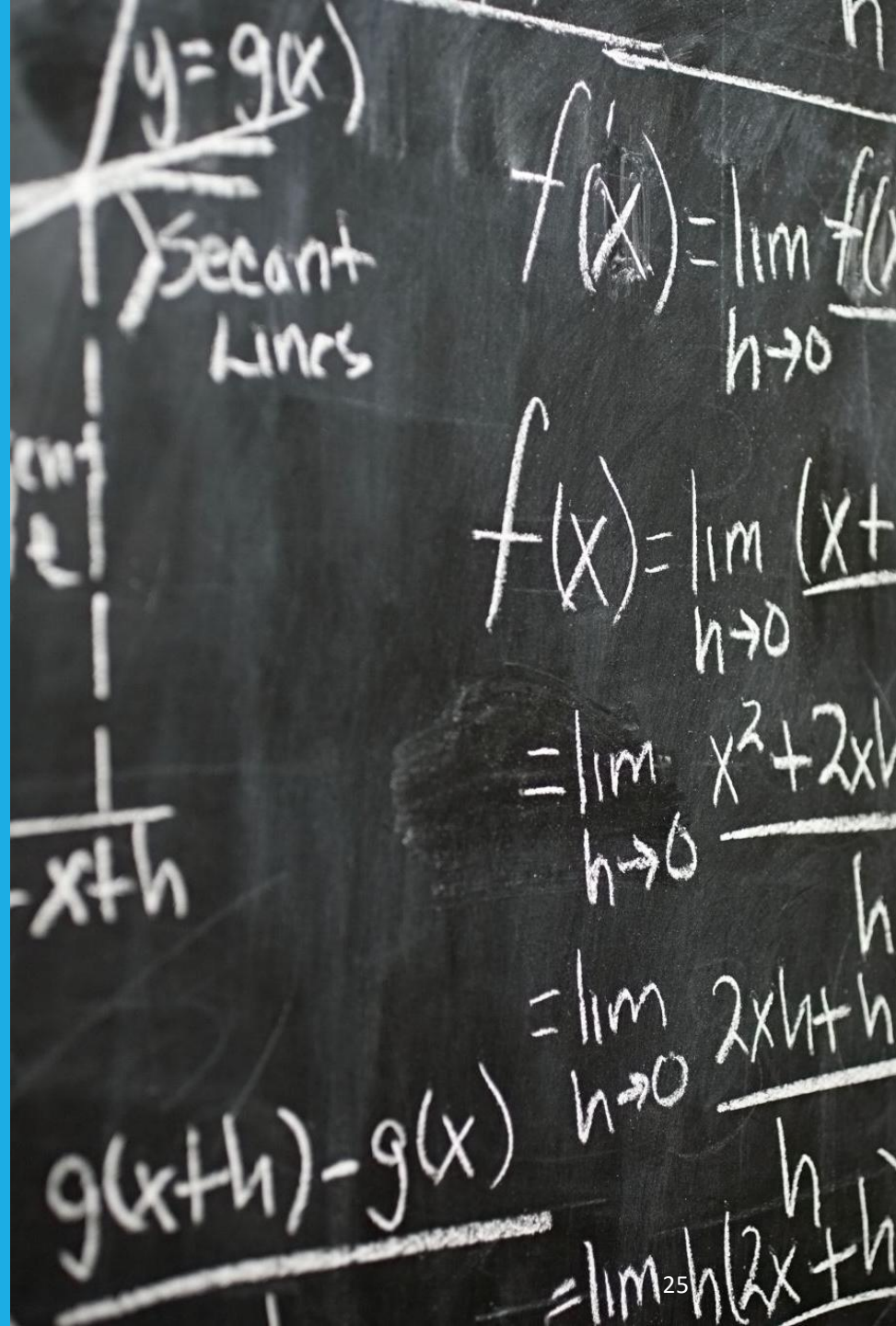
Observing or volunteering in classrooms and school activities by participating in classroom experiences, assisting teachers and students when appropriate, and gaining a better understanding of the learning environment, instructional activities, and classroom expectations.

Participating in family groups, committees, and school organizations, such as the PTA/PTO, advisory councils, parent committees, and other family engagement groups, to contribute ideas, support school initiatives, and collaborate with educators and other families.

Reading and staying informed through school and classroom newsletters, websites, emails, and other communications to learn about important announcements, academic expectations, upcoming events, school policies, available resources, and opportunities for family involvement.

What are my rights?

- The families and parents of Title I students have a right, by law, to:
  - be involved in decisions made at both the school and district level;
  - be provided with information on your child's level of achievement on tests in reading/language arts, writing, mathematics, and science;
  - request and receive information on the qualifications of your child's teacher and paraprofessionals who are working with your child. Please see Parent's Right to Know on our school website.
  - request opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of your child. The school is required to respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
  - If you have any questions about teacher qualifications at Ridgeway High School , please contact Rhonda Kendall, PLC Coach, at (901) 416-8820.



What are my rights?

Parents Right to Know

Use the link to View “Parents Right to Know” Document

https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1769191002/xxreupnqmnk2fcjaqoof/Family_Engagement_Plan_25-26.pdf

Who can I contact for help?

- For general questions, call the front office at: (901) 416-8820
- To reach the principal, Dr. Phillip Nelson call: (901) 416-61823
- To reach the school counselor, Latonnia Vann call: (901) 416-1817
- To reach our family liaison, Kelley Green call:
- To reach your child's teacher, call the front office or view our staff directory at:

WE JUST WANT TO SAY…

THANK YOU!