Rockdale County School District  
Parent and Family Engagement Policy

2022-2023
Revised June 23, 2022
960 Pine Street NE
Conyers, Ga. 30012
www.rockdaleschools.org

What is Family Engagement?

Family Engagement is the participation of parents and family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

(A) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning.

(B) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education.

(C) 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.

(D) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.

About the Parent and Family Engagement Policy

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Rockdale County School District has developed this parent and family engagement policy that establishes the district’s expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district’s Title I schools. This plan will describe RCPS’s commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity in its Title I schools to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district and student academic achievement goals.

When schools, families, and communities work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer and enjoy school more. Title I, Part A provides for substantive family engagement at every level of the program, such as in the development and implementation of the district and school plans, and in carrying out the district and school improvement provisions. Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools and school systems to involve parents and family members in their children’s education. Consistent with Section 1116, the RCPS district will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESSA.
Opportunities for Meaningful Parent Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents and family members are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All parents of students eligible to receive Title I services are included in the opportunities described in this section to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our student academic achievement goals.

Title I Plan Revision Meetings – Spring
Each spring, parents and family members of Title I students are invited to revision and planning meetings for all Title I plans, including the District Parent Engagement Policy and the LEA Comprehensive Needs Assessment. These meetings are held at each Title I school and give parents an opportunity to offer input and revise and update current plans for the following school year. Notices regarding these meetings are sent to all parents and communicated on school websites.

Annual Parent Academy
RCPS district supports the annual Parent Academy, a free event for parents and the community, which is held in the fall of each school year. The Parent Academy is a virtual event, providing an expansive learning opportunity for parents. Workshops offered include college and career readiness, computer skills, parenting skills, preparing for the Georgia Milestones, resources for parents, and how to help your child academically. Parents are also given the opportunity to participate in discussion sessions to provide suggestions, input and feedback on various school and district plans and policies.
Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, RCPS will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of parent and family engagement policies and family engagement activities to improve the academic quality of Title I schools.

Beginning in January, each school will send home a survey of the content and effectiveness of their Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Parents are also able to participate in the survey via links on school websites. Parents and family members are encouraged to complete surveys when entering their child’s school or parent resource center. The surveys contain questions concerning the parent and family engagement program, the parent and family engagement budget, and also includes a section for parents to provide comments. The district and schools will utilize feedback and comments from the surveys to improve the effectiveness of their parent and family engagement programs.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, school parent liaisons will communicate and collaborate with the Office for Student Support Services to ensure full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.

Adoption

This districtwide parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of parents, school, and district personnel at parent revision meetings and parental input opportunities provided by each Title I school.

This policy was adopted by the Rockdale County School District on June 23, 2022 and will be in effect for the 2022-2023 academic year. The school district will distribute this policy in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I Part A schools on or before November 1, 2022.