



Robert L. Merritt Jr. High School Parent and Family Engagement Plan 2024-2025



Understanding that parental and community involvement is the catalyst for student success, Robert L. Merritt Jr. High School (RLMJHS) implemented this plan to build a mutual relationship amongst all stakeholders to include: students, parents, school personnel, and the Sunflower County community, for the sole purpose of making decisions as to the planning, review, and improvement of the School's Title I program.

What is Family Engagement?

Family Engagement is a collaboration between parents, families, and the school in regularly scheduled meetings to discuss and evaluate school practices that are best suited for the students for which we service. Parents are given a voice to share their opinions on various topics, as well as, are invited to participate in school activities involving their child(ren).

RLMJHS's Vision

The vision of Robert L Merritt Jr. High School is to create a positive school culture fostered on **mutual respect and engagement of stakeholders** while providing a safe learning environment that motivates **students to achieve academic brilliance** and stimulate critical thinking skills.

What does Family Engagement look like?

RLMJHS hosts its initial Title I meeting in the fall of each school year to provide parents with pertinent information concerning planning, implementation, and review of Title I funds including Title I requirements and parents need to know. At this meeting parents are also solicited to help in the development of the Schoolwide Program Plan. A second Title I meeting is hosted in the spring of each school year to evaluate and review the implementation of various Title I programs and projects. Additional meetings occur throughout the day, on a bi-monthly schedule to engage families in activities and discussions. Events such as Grandparents' Paint and Sip, Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon, PTO Luncheon, Dad's on Duty, and Law Enforcement Recognitions are ways in which RLMJHS gains parental and community involvement and have ongoing conversations for implementations and reviews of Title I funds. The meetings are publicized through letters and flyers (English and Spanish translations), School Status' Notify, the RLMJHS website, Facebook, as well as other media sources. Parents are also given the opportunity to request meetings if deemed necessary, for which the school obliges.



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Feedback

Parents have the opportunity to respond to surveys pertaining to Title I funds via email and Google forms. A suggestion box is located in the school's main office where parents are encouraged to drop their suggestions. Timely responses are provided to parents.



Curriculum and Assessments

Topics at the initial Title I meeting include the school's curriculum and assessment pieces. The principal, along with the assistant principal, academic coach, and counselor, share the school's curriculum building process to include: the pacing guide, instructional material, grading system, assessment platforms used to monitor student progress, and Carnegie units earned, if requirements are met. Proficiency levels as well as growth points obtained, according to the Mississippi Department of Education, are also shared.