



# Robert L. Merritt Jr. High School Parent and Family Engagement Plan 2023-2024



This plan was implemented by Robert L. Merritt Jr. High School (RLMJHS) in order to build a mutual relationship among all stakeholders, which includes students, parents, school personnel, and the community of Sunflower County. The sole purpose of this plan was to make decisions regarding the planning, review, and improvement of the School's Title I program. The school was aware that parental and community involvement is the driving force behind student success.

## **What is Family Engagement?**

The term "family engagement" refers to a collaborative effort between the school, families, and parents, which takes place in the form of regularly scheduled meetings. The purpose of these sessions is to discuss and review the school practices that are most appropriate for the pupils that we serve. Parents are given the opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings on a variety of issues, and they are also invited to take part in events that take place at school that involve their child or children.

## **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?**

The initial Title I meeting is held at RLMJHS in the autumn of each school year. The purpose of this meeting is to present parents with relevant information regarding the planning, implementation, and review of Title I monies. This information includes Title I requirements and information that parents need to know. Additionally, parents are asked to participate in the preparation of the Schoolwide Program Plan during this meeting which is being held. A second meeting for Title I is held in the spring of each school year. The purpose of this meeting is to examine and review the implementation of the many programs and initiatives that fall under Title I. To encourage participation from families in activities and conversations, additional meetings are held throughout the day on a timetable that occurs every two months. The RLMJHS is able to gain parental and community involvement through events such as the Grandparents' Paint and Sip, the Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon, the PTO Luncheon, the Doughnuts for Dads, the Muffin for Moms, and the Law Enforcement Recognitions. Additionally, the school is able to have ongoing conversations for the implementation and reviews of Title I funds. The meetings are announced using a variety of media sources, including but not



# Robert L. Merritt Jr. High School Parent and Family Engagement Plan 2023-2024



limited to letters and flyers (both in English and Spanish), School Status' Notify, the RLMJHS website, Facebook, and other various media outlets. In addition, parents are provided with the opportunity to request meetings, which the school will accommodate in the event that they are judged necessary.

## **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**

The curriculum and assessment components of the school are among the topics that will be discussed during the first Title I conference. The process of developing the school's curriculum is a collaborative effort between the principal, the assistant principal, the academic coach, and the counselor. This process includes the following components: the pacing guide, instructional material, the grading system, assessment platforms that are used to monitor student progress, and Carnegie units earned, if the requirements are also met. According to the Mississippi Department of Education, both the levels of proficiency and the growth points that were acquired are also shared.