



## **School Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

*Randolph County Elementary School*

*School Year 2023-2024*

*Revision Date 07/25/2023*

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Randolph County Elementary School** receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

The **Randolph County Elementary School** agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

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

- (A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school
- (C) 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) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA

### **JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

**Randolph County Elementary School** will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

- *Annual Input meeting will be held to solicit from parents/families on how to spend the Title I set aside. A sign in sheet, agenda and minutes will be kept by the Title I Coordinator at RCES as evidence of meeting(s). Parents will also be notified about the opportunity to provide input regarding spending Title I Parent set aside via school website, letter to parent, and messenger phone system.*
- *An annual review of the Title I program at RCES will be held in the fall of the year. This meeting will present the RCES Title I information to all parents/families. All parents will be invited to this meeting. A sign in sheet, agenda, and minutes will be kept by the Title I Coordinator at RCES as evidence of meeting.*

### **ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING**

**Randolph County Elementary School** will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school’s Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents’ requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

- *RCES will utilize the Messenger phone system to call each parent/family to announce Title I meetings.*
- *RCES will utilize the RCES webpage to advertise the meeting dates, locations and times.*
- *RCES will utilize flyers sent home to parents/families of meeting dates, locations, and times.*
- *RCES will utilize the school marquee to advertise the meeting dates, locations, and times.*

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

**Randolph County Elementary School** will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

*All parents are invited to participate in Title I program input meeting and planning. RCES utilizes parent meetings, email, flyers, and our school website to invite all parents to participate in parent activities for the purpose of Title I program planning. Information about our Title I program, including our Title I Parent and Family Engagement policy, School Improvement Plan, and School-Parent Compact are published on our school website and are available in the front office and parent feedback and input is invited on these plans.*

*Parent conferences will be held throughout the year. In addition to scheduled parent conferences, teachers maintain contact with parents by phone and email. Conference times are offered at flexible hours to accommodate parent schedules.*

### **SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

**Randolph County Elementary School** will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

- *When developing the School-Parent Compact, parents are asked to participate in the needs analysis of RCES.*
- *Randolph County School System has developed a parent survey that is sent to all RCES parent/families in the spring. The results of this survey are used to develop the Title I plan for the next year.*
- *A parent meeting is held to present a draft of the School-Parent Compact and input from parents is solicited at the parent input meeting.*
- *A sign in sheet, agenda and minutes will be kept by the Title I Director at RCES as evidence of meeting(s).*

### **RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

**Randolph County Elementary School** will take the following actions to involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent by:

*Reserving 1 percent from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in FY20 to carry out the parent and family engagement requirements listed in this policy and as described in Section 1116 of the ESSA. The district will provide clear guidance and communication to assist each Title I school in developing an adequate parent and family engagement budget that addresses their needs assessment and parent recommendations.*

## COORDINATION OF SERVICES

**Randolph County Elementary School** will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

*Offering programs and referring struggling students to the programs to provide additional support for children after school and through the summer.*

## BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

**Randolph County Elementary School** will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - The challenging State's academic standards
  - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
  - The requirements of Title I, Part A
  - How to monitor their child's progress
  - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child

*The parent and family engagement activities scheduled (tentatively) for this coming year are events that have been successfully attended previously, in addition to some new opportunities. Title I Parent Night, Title I Planning Meetings, Open House, GA Milestone Nights, and workshops on teaching parents how to help children with homework and healthy learning environments.*

*Workshops will be held throughout the year for parents in conjunction with the school system.*

*Updates about student growth, achievement, and behavior are sent home to Parents in the middle and end of the nine weeks grading period (ie. progress reports and report cards). Parent conferences will be held throughout the year. In addition to scheduled parent conferences, teachers maintain contact with parents by phone and email. Conference times are offered at flexible hours to accommodate parent schedules. Informational material, including developmental health, college/career, and study skill materials, are available in our counselor's offices.*

## **BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

**Randolph County Elementary School** will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school by:

*Providing professional learning sessions for teachers and staff on the importance of communicating with parents about positive behaviors and advancements in achievement, along with keeping parents informed when their students are struggling or having behavior difficulties.*

**Randolph County Elementary School** will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

*Offering parent meetings more than once and at different times of the day to increase the involvement from parents.*