

2023-2024 Rocky Plains Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy



*Dr. Ryan James, Principal
5300 Highway 162 South
Covington GA, 30016
770-784-4987*

*www.rpes.newtoncountyschools.org
Revised 05/18/2023*

What is Title I?

Rocky Plains Elementary is identified as a Title I school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to the challenging State academic standards to improve teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support family engagement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with parents and family members a written parent and family engagement policy.

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What it is?

To guarantee student success, a partnership between school and parents is vital. At *Rocky Plains Elementary School*, we recognize that parents are their child's primary teachers. Parent and family support is critical in efforts to provide a quality education to the children at *Rocky Plains Elementary School*. Numerous activities are scheduled throughout the school year to educate parents, encourage involvement in their child's education, and to promote the development of a relationship between the school and families.

How is it developed?

In cooperation with parents, staff, and community members, *Rocky Plains Elementary School* (R.P.E.S.) has established this Parent & Family Engagement Policy. R.P.E.S. invited all parents to attend our Annual Stakeholder's Input Meeting last spring to review and revise this Parent & Family Engagement Policy, the district's Parent & Family Engagement Policy, as well as the Title I Schoolwide Plan, ways to build staff capacity, our School-Parent Compact, the parental engagement budget, and the Comprehensive LEA Plan (CLIP). *Rocky Plains Elementary School* welcomes parental input and comments at any time regarding the plan. The plan is posted on our school's website and copies are available in the front office and during all parent meetings. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for the upcoming school year.

Who is it for?

At *Rocky Plains Elementary School*, all students are eligible to participate in the Title I, Part A Program. *Rocky Plains Elementary School* will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with disabilities, parents of migratory students, and parents with limited English.

Where is it available?

The Parent & Family Engagement Policy is distributed to all students at the beginning of each school year in our Title I Information Packet. The policy is also accessible in the office, on our school's website, and provided per parent request. Parents and families are invited to give feedback throughout the school year through Parent & Family Engagement meetings, on our annual surveys, and at the end of the year Parent & Family Feedback & Revision Meeting.

Newton County Schools Goals

Improve student mastery of standards, Increase opportunities for students to demonstrate success beyond test scores, and
Increase graduation rate

Rocky Plains Elementary School Goals

To accomplish the mission of Newton County Schools, four goals have been set for Rocky Plains Elementary School.

- ⇒ Increase reading by 3% for students in grades K– 5 as measured by FastBridge.
- ⇒ Increase the percent of students in grades 3-5 scoring at Proficient or Distinguished Learner in ELA by 3% as measured by GMAS.
- ⇒ Increase math by 3% for students in grades K-5 as measured by FastBridge.
- ⇒ Increase the percent of students in grade 3-5 scoring at Developing, Proficient, or Distinguished Learner in Math by 3% as measured by GMAS.

School-Parent & Family Compact

The parents, families, students, and staff of Rocky Plains Elementary School worked together to develop this school-parent and family compact for achievement. Teachers recommended home learning strategies, parents added ideas to make the learning strategies more specific and family friendly, and students told us what would help them reach their academic goals. Meetings are held each year to review and revise the compact based upon stakeholder needs.

Parent and family feedback is welcome at any time!

2023-2024 Rocky Plains Elementary School Parent & Family Engagement Meeting Calendar Revised 05/18/2023

Parents will be informed of these events through student agendas, Facebook, Twitter, Remind101, School Messenger, the school's webpage, and/or the school's marquee, in a timely manner.

Title I Annual Parent & Family Orientation Thursday, August 24th at 6:00 p.m.	Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences Friday, September 15th
Families will receive information on the benefits of being a Title I school and review the current Parent and Family Engagement Policy, Family-School Compact and upcoming family events. Families will also be able to visit our Parent Resource center to see available items for supporting students at home.	Families and teachers will have the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss students' progress as well as address the School-Parent Compact.
Family Literacy Night Thursday, October 26th at 6:00 p.m.	Family Math Night Thursday, January 18th at 6:00 p.m.
Join us for a fun-filled evening of reading! Families will learn how to reinforce reading strategies at home. Teachers and families will participate in a variety of hands-on activities to help build stamina for phonemic awareness, word recognition, vocabulary and comprehension. Parents will be able to visit the Parent Resource Center to check out grade specific reading kits to help practice reading skills at home.	Join us for an exciting math night! Families will learn about various math strategies. Teachers and families will participate in a variety of hands-on activities to help increase fluency, problem solving skills and increase mathematical vocabulary. Parents will be able to visit the Parent Resource Center to check out grade specific math activities to help practice math skills at home.
Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences Friday, February 2nd	Annual Title I Stakeholders/Parents Input Meeting Thursday, March 28th at 7:30 a.m. or 6:00 p.m.
Families and teachers will have the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss students' progress as well as address the School-Parent Compact.	Parents will be invited to give input on the Title I Program at RPES and the 2023-2024 RPES and District's Parental Involvement Policies, School-Parent & Family Compact, the Parental Involvement Budget, ways to build staff capacity, the Comprehensive LEA Plan, and the Parent Engagement Calendar. At this meeting, the parental involvement 1% allocation is discussed with participants.

Parent Engagement Funds

Did you know that each LEA that receives more than \$500,000 in Title I, Part A funds, shall reserve at least one percent of its allocation to assist schools to carry out the parental engagement activities? Attend our **Annual Title I Stakeholder's Input Meeting** to give your input on how we can use our funds to provide you with the tools, resources and strategies to help your child reach academic success.

**Annual Title I
Stakeholders/Parents Input Meeting**
Thursday, March 28th at
7:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Parent & Family Engagement

Rocky Plains Elementary School believes that parent and family involvement includes engaging parents and families in consistent, meaningful, two-way communication about their child's academic progress and school activities. In our collaborative efforts, parents and families are encouraged to do the following to ensure student success:

- *Attend parent and family engagement activities*
- *Attend parent-teacher conferences*
- *Utilize the strategies that are shared during parent conferences and parent & family engagement events*
- *Use the resources located in the parent resource room*
- *Complete Annual Title I Surveys*
- *Read student agendas, monthly newsletters, and calendars*
- *Communicate with your child's teacher via telephone, email, agendas, or written correspondence*
- *Facilitate the completion of nightly homework*
- *Ensure that students are present at school daily and on time*
- *Volunteer*

Building Capacity

Rocky Plains Elementary School pledges to take the following action steps to promote parents and families as partners in order to ensure our students' success:

- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities will be sent home in English and Spanish. This information will also be posted on the school's website, school's Twitter account, and communicated through school messenger.
- Provide parents with current curricular and standards expectations, as well as standardized testing updates through parent activities.
- Keep the school's Twitter and Facebook accounts, and the webpage updated with current events. Also, utilize School Messenger, the marquee, and publish monthly newsletters as a means to communicate school events. All communications can be translated into the appropriate language, when needed.
- Provide materials and training that will assist parents and families with supporting their child's achievement, through programs such as the parent workshop series, including the harms of copyright piracy
- Conduct staff development on parent and family engagement practices, parent communications, and partnership building with parents.
- Provide trainings and share tips with faculty throughout the school year that will strengthen communication and build relationships with our parents
- Coordinate events to support the transition of GA Pre-K students to Kindergarten and 5th grade students to the middle school.
- Collaborate with community leaders and business owners to increase participation and awareness of parent and family engagement plans and activities through our School Council meetings.
- Review survey results with all stakeholders in order to improve the quality and relevance of parent and family engagement activities.
- Provide high-quality parent and family engagement programs that address the needs and interests of our parents based upon survey and Parent & Family Engagement Activity feedback results.
- Publish information related to school and parent programs in a language and format that parents can understand.

Continuous Communication

An informed, engaged, and supportive family plays an instrumental role in a student's academic success. The Newton County School System supports families in partnerships with schools, district, and the community in the quest of achieving academic success for all students. Here are some ways that we provide continuous communication with our parents to ensure that learning is continued beyond the school day:

- **Parent Connect Canvas Page**
- **Rocky Plains School Website**
 - **Teacher Canvas Pages**
 - **Facebook**
 - **Twitter**
- **Class Communication Apps Like Dojo, ClassTag, and Remind**

Parent Resources



RPES Parent & Family Resource Room

Room #43

The Parent & Family Resource Room is available to parents in grades Pre-K thru 5th Monday-Friday from 7:00 a.m.-7:45 a.m., and 2:10 p.m.-3:00 p.m. It is also open during parent engagement meetings, parent-teacher conferences, and other times by request.

Materials Available

Title I Brochures
Family Engagement Kits (math & reading)
Educational Games (math & reading)

PLUS SO MUCH MORE!

For more information, please contact Mrs. Jesse Daniel, Title I Parent Contact at (770)784-4987 or email: daniel.jesse@newton.k12.ga.us

Measures of Effectiveness

- **Parent Meeting Evaluation**—to gather feedback from the parents to evaluate the effectiveness of the meeting and to gain insight on parent academic support for future meetings.
- **Parent Survey Data**—to gain insight on RPES effectiveness in meeting the needs of parents in various areas such as technology, parent workshop topics, and school climate so that we can create an environment that meets the needs of all parents and families.
- **Stakeholders Input Meeting:** to give all stakeholders the opportunity to give input to build the effectiveness on the:
 - Parent and Family Engagement Policy-School and District
 - School-Parent Compact
 - Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP)
 - Title I Schoolwide Plan
 - Building Staff Capacity
 - Parent Involvement 1% Funding
- **Student Outcomes:** to assess if strategies and activities, as outlined on the school parent compacts, are effectively impacting student achievement.
- **Multiple Opportunities for Input:** RPES will provide several opportunities for parents and families to give input on the effectiveness of the Title I Program. Parents can access our Title Schoolwide Plan, The Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and the School-Parent Compact on our school's website. These documents are also located in our parent resource room located in room #43