

Richland Springs ISD Parental Involvement Policy

Basic Elements of the Parental Involvement Policy:

1. Statement of Purpose
2. Developing the Policy
3. Annual Meeting
4. School-Parent Compacts
5. Programs and the School Community
6. Staff-Parent communication
7. Evaluation
8. Funding

Purpose

Richland Springs ISD believes every child should have the opportunity to attain his/her full potential. Therefore, Richland Springs ISD will maximize its resources to enable each child to become a successful learner. A key resource is its people; administrators, teachers, school staff, parents, and community members. We will work together to establish effective partnerships; together everyone achieves more. School and home must work together to realize higher student achievement. Ongoing, two-way, meaningful communication will occur to facilitate mutual understanding and to stimulate student success.

Richland Springs ISD will provide to all parents the grade level goals for its students. Richland Springs ISD will also publish the STAAR testing schedule and assessment goals. Those students that need extra assistance will have access to programs that will help them reach these goals.

Richland Springs ISD will make every effort to include parents in the development, evaluation, and revision of the Title 1 program and the Parent Involvement Policy. The school-parent compact will describe the responsibilities of key stakeholders and useful channels of communication. The goal of our parental involvement program is student success.

Developing the Policy

An advisory committee will be formed consisting of parents, community members, teachers and staff, and administrators to develop and revise the Richland Springs ISD Parent Involvement Policy. The need for volunteers to serve on this committee will be publicized and then volunteers will be selected. The parent volunteers will represent the diversity of the student population, and one or more parents on the advisory committee will have children participating in the Title 1 program. The advisory committee will convene at a time and place convenient to all its members.

Annual Meeting

Richland Springs ISD will hold an annual meeting during the first six weeks of the new school year for all parents. At the meeting the Title 1 program will be described, the Parental Involvement Policy will be distributed and reviewed, and opportunities for parental participation will be explained. Parent volunteers will be recruited to serve on the district Advisory Committee.

Parents will be informed about the annual meeting by newspaper and notices will be sent home with students.

Since the goal of Richland Springs ISD is student success, the expectations for school performance, individual student assessments, and grade level curriculum will be provided in a format parents can understand.

Parents will be advised that the effectiveness of the Parental Involvement Program will be evaluated annually and the policy will be revised to meet the needs of the students, school, parents, and community.

Parent /School Compacts

Richland Springs ISD will consult with the parent Advisory Committee to annually develop, review and revise the school/parent compact. The compact will identify the responsibilities of the staff to provide high-level curriculum and instruction, and the expectations of the parents to provide support in their children's learning. The compact will address the best ways to maintain positive, timely communication between school and home. The compacts will be available to all parents and families in the student handbook.

Programs and the School community

Annually Richland Springs ISD will assess the needs of the parents and children in the school community using a variety of tools including a survey or questionnaire. The findings will be used to revise the Title 1 program to meet the current needs. Workshops or other training will be made available to educators and parents to address these needs. Parents will be notified about training opportunities.

Staff-Parent Communication

Richland Springs ISD will communicate with parents on a regular basis. Important information will be provided in the student handbook and on the district website. Frequent notices about student performance will be sent home with children or provided by phone calls, emails, and conferences. In so far as possible all communication will be provided in a language and format that parents can understand.

Parents are encouraged to contact the school or the child's teacher when questions or problems arise.

Evaluation

Richland Springs ISD is required to set aside at least 1% of its title 1 funds for the purpose of parental involvement. The principal will consult the Title 1 Advisory Committee about allowable uses of the funds. The principal will then authorize the use of the funds for parental involvement.

Concluding Statement

Richland Springs ISD is committed to the success of students. We will work together with parents to monitor the effectiveness of our Parental Involvement and Title 1 Programs and to provide excellence in education. This policy will be promoted by our school board, administrators, principals, and other school staff as we seek active participation by our parents.