

**Riverbend Elementary School**  
**Revised July 27, 2023**

**Riverbend Elementary School**  
**Parent and Family Engagement Policy**  
**and Plan for Shared Success**  
**2023-2024 School Year**

**Keri Smith, Principal**



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**What is Title I?**

Riverbend 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 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 is it?** This is a plan that describes how Riverbend Elementary will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Riverbend Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents and family members in order to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Riverbend Elementary will support family engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

**How is it revised?** Riverbend Elementary School invites all parents to attend a parent and family engagement input meeting, in the spring, to review and revise this parent and family engagement policy, as well as the schoolwide plan, our school-parent compact, school comprehensive needs assessment and the family engagement budget. Additionally, our school welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding the plan. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for next year. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and post feedback throughout the year. We also distribute an annual survey online and have paper copies available for parents to provide suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family engagement. Parents and family members can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities throughout the school year including our Family Nights. The school will submit parent comments to the district in writing if the Title I Schoolwide Plan is not satisfactory to parents.

**Who is it for?** All students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Riverbend Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, with disabilities, and of migratory children.

**Where is it available?** At the beginning of the year, after revision, the plan is posted on the school's website, emailed through Infinite Campus, Remind, and presented at the Annual Title I meeting, and paper copies are provided in the school's front office. Parents can also get a copy of the plan in the Parent Information Center.

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### District Goals

- By the end of FY24, the percentage of students in each subgroup moving into the "Proficient" and "Distinguished" levels of performance on the Georgia Milestones Assessments will increase by 2% in the "Proficient" and "Distinguished" levels of performance.
- Increase the percentage of referred students who access school-based mental health services by 2% each year (with FY21 being the baseline year) to decrease the number of OSS Days in grades 6-12.

### Riverbend Goals

- By the end of 2023-2024, RES will increase by 10% the number of students reading at or above appropriate grade level in Grades 1-5, as measured by Fountas & Pinnell BAS.
- By the end of the 2023-2024, RES will have 90% of students master 90% of their required math facts in Grades 1-5, as measured by Hall County Schools Math Fluency Benchmarks with a focus on the area of multiplication and division.
- By the end of 2023-2024, students at Riverbend will increase by 10% the number of students passing the 5<sup>th</sup> grade opinion writing assessment based on beginning of the year data collected from a baseline opinion writing sample working towards the Hall County District goal of 90% mastery.
- By the end of FY24, 85% of students surveyed noted that teachers and staff notice their good behavior and it is celebrated.

### School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Riverbend Elementary and our families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop together that explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers. The school-parent compacts are shared through the Annual Title I meeting, Infinite Campus, Remind, and posted on the school's website. The school-parent compacts are kept in the main office if parents need a copy.

### Parent & Family Involvement Program & Activities

Riverbend Elementary will host the following events to build capacity for strong family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

- Open House August 3, 2023  
Meet your child's teacher and our friendly and helpful school staff for the year.
- Coffee and Chat Meetings- Tailored to parent needs will be held quarterly.
- Annual Title I Meeting – October 24, 2023 10am and 5:30pm  
We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, Title I budget, the school wide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements. Invitations will be emailed, sent via Remind, sent through IC Message, and date posted on the school marquee.
- Literacy Night – October 24, 2023 @ 6:00pm  
Helpful literacy tips offers ways for parents & family to help their students become more successful.
- Family Math Night – January 23, 2024 @ 6pm  
Helpful math tips offers ways for parents & family to help their students become more successful.
- Parent and Family Engagement Input Meeting – March 5, 2024 @ 10am and 5:30pm  
A forum for parents and family members to discuss with the principal and staff regarding the schoolwide plan, parent and family engagement policy, school parent compacts, and the family engagement budget for the following school year.
- Family Science Night – March 5, 2024 @ 6pm  
Families will participate in Science experiments and activities. Materials will be sent home to support fun learning opportunities at home. Families will learn about the upcoming Georgia Milestones Assessment.
- Parent, Teacher and Student Conferences - On-going  
All parents will be invited to attend at least one meeting to discuss their student's progress. Advanced Scholars Academy classes will conduct student-led conferences.



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**Parent and Family Engagement**

Riverbend Elementary believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring that...

- Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- 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.

Riverbend Elementary is committed to helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with transportation and child care in order to participate in our programs. 770-534-4141 or [keri.smith@hallco.org](mailto:keri.smith@hallco.org)



Riverbend Elementary will take the following measures to promote and support parents and family members as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will...

- ✓ Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in English and Spanish, and posted on the school website, and included in the monthly Riverbender newsletter for all families.
- ✓ Publish Teacher Newsletters in English and Spanish. The school website is available to parents seeking to understand the school's academic standards and assessments. In addition, it provides ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, such as phone messages, social media, flyers, Infinite Campus, and Remind.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child at home to improve their child's achievement.
- ✓ Partner with local Pre- K programs and middle schools to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.
- ✓ Listen and respond to parents' requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.
- ✓ Use our Partners in Education and School Council to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement policy.
- ✓ Collect feedback from family members at all events, place feedback/input forms in the building and on the school website.
- ✓ Use Canvas professional modules four times a year to train school personnel. Strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement will be provided through these modules.
- ✓ Parents may request a conference to the teacher to discuss student progress throughout the year.
- ✓ Partner with Head Start through the District Parent Outreach Facilitator. The District Parent Outreach Facilitator meets with parents and families providing information and resources to support school orientation for parents, families and students to assist in successful student transitions to kindergarten.

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**Parent and Family Engagement Standards**

Riverbend Elementary and our parents have adopted the National PTO standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community. The standards are...

1. Welcoming All Families
2. Communicating Effectively
3. Supporting Student Success
4. Speaking Up for Every Child
5. Sharing Power
6. Collaborating with Community

**School Community Team**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I am excited about joining the School Community Team.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please contact me so I can learn more about the School Community Team.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name and Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**School Community Team**

Riverbend Elementary invites all parents to join the School Community Team to share ideas and ways to involve other parents and family members to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet monthly during the school year, but parents and family members can also submit their ideas or suggestions during activities and meetings, as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the School Community Team, please contact the principal, Keri Smith at 770-534-4141 or complete the interest form and leave it in the main office.

**Share Your Thoughts**

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this plan that you feel is not satisfactory with the students' and the school's goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the Main Office:

Name: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

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