



COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

From the Board of Directors and the Parent Circle, welcome to ROCS!

We are so excited to start this new year with you and wanted to give you a brief overview of who we are and what we do. **We know this letter is long, but bear with us! It is important.** Here are a few things that are helpful to know as you begin the school year.

What is the Board of Directors?

The Board of Directors is a small group of parents and professionals who govern our school. The Board is responsible for ensuring organizational and student success, helping the school achieve its primary mission and charter outcomes. **The Board is actively seeking new members, especially those with diverse professional backgrounds.** If you are interested in joining our team, please reach out to Alicia Whitney at awhitney@raleighoakcharter.org. **The Board of Directors meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm.** Details can be found on the school's website under "Our School," then "Board of Directors."

What is the Parent Circle?

The Parent Circle (PC) includes a small leadership team and any parent that wishes to help, in ways both large and small. The PC is primarily responsible for coordinating volunteer opportunities for community building and parent service, raising funds to support the school, and providing feedback to the Board of Directors. PC tasks are divided into three committees:

1. The Head, which focuses on intellectual activities and classroom support,
2. The Heart, which focuses on community building and events, and
3. The Hands, which focuses on indoor/outdoor maintenance, building improvements, and repairs.

If you are interested in helping, please contact them at rocsparentcircle@gmail.com.

The PC meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Details can be found on the school's website under "Parents," then "Parent Circle."

Family Involvement / Volunteerism

After spending the last three school years at a distance from each other, we could not be more excited to finally welcome volunteers back in the building! Of course, studies



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prove that students are more successful when their families are involved in their schools, but also, we just miss the positive energy that parents and family members bring to our community. We are deeply grateful for your willingness to support our teachers and staff.

We know that volunteerism is not possible for absolutely everyone, but for most, we've found that it provides a simple, fun, and meaningful way to support the mission, vision, and daily experience of our school.

We ask each family group to volunteer at least 15 hours per school year. And for those who can do more, please know that your extra volunteer hours are helping support other families who may not have time or resources to be present as volunteers. Every contribution is valuable, no matter how big or small. This is just one way we support each other as a community.

Also, please know that the 15-hour expectation may be shared among all family members, including grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings, and neighbors! However, **all volunteers – including parents – must complete a formal Volunteer Application and Background Consent prior to volunteering.**

ROCS uses Background Inquiries and Services located in Cary, NC. Volunteers can initiate background checks by [clicking here](#) and following the prompts. When requested please use "ROCS Volunteer" in the code field. Payment for background checks is the responsibility of the potential volunteer.

Family members can volunteer in many, many ways, including:

- Spending time in the classroom
- Working for a few hours at the front desk,
- Helping at family work days, usually spreading mulch and making small repairs
- Chaperoning on field trips,
- Helping to organize community events,

We encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher and/or designated room parent about other ways you can assist with and participate in class activities.

We strive to create a collaborative learning environment and encourage families to:

- Stay in consistent communication with classroom teachers.



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- Share your concerns with your child's teacher and the Board.
- Become a room parent!
- Ask your friends and employers if they might be willing to donate to our school.

You can also support our school by becoming a regular monthly donor at www.patreon.com/raleighoakcharterschool.

We appreciate your unique skill set, creativity, and initiative. We cannot wait to get to know you! As a Parent Circle and a Board of Directors, we would love to hear your ideas and put your talents to work.