

RIPLEY COUNTY R-III SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN  
2023-24

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Ripley County R-III School District Mission Statement: To enable all students to become caring, responsible, productive citizens in a changing world.

RIPLEY COUNTY R-III SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION GOALS:

Goal #1 **WELCOMING ALL FAMILIES:**

Families are active participants in the life of the school and feel welcomed, valued, and connected to each other, to school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class.

Goal #2: **COMMUNICATING:**

Families and school staff engage in regular, two-way, meaningful communication about student learning.

Goal #3: **SUPPORTING STUDENT SERVICES:**

Families and school staff continually collaborate to support students' learning and healthy development both at home and at school and have regular opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills to do this effectively.

Goal #4: **SHARING POWER:**

Families and school staff are equal partners in decisions that affect students and families and together will inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs

**Goal #5: COLLABORATING WITH THE COMMUNITY:**

Families and school staff collaborate with community members to connect students, families, and staff to expand learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation.

## Goals and Action Strategies

**Goal #1: Welcoming All Families:** Families are active participants in the life of the school and feel welcomed, valued, and connected to each other, to school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class.

Description of Activity	Presenters	Materials	Evaluation/Implementation	Outcome
Open House In -person Aug. each year	Principal and Teachers	Sign-in Sheet Calendars – copies of school and classroom procedures	Staff will welcome parents to school. Teachers will share learning expectations and strategies for students to succeed. Parents will tour school.	Parents will have opportunity to meet teachers and staff and will have a clear understanding of teachers’ expectations and will know what students must do in order to succeed.
Parent Advisory Committee Meeting In -Person Aug. and April or May	Principal and Teachers and Parents	Sign-in sheet Copies of Agenda Slide Show	Parents will have the opportunity to view the School Improvement Plan with goals and action steps. They will view the School-Parent Compact and Family Engagement Plan and provide feedback.	Parents will offer their perspective and suggestions as to how they can partner with the school to improve student performance
PTO Meetings In-Person Monthly	Principal and Teachers and Parents, PTO officers	Varies	Parents meet and discuss ways to become involved in the school and how they can help the teachers/staff.	Parents will offer their ideas and suggestions as to how they can partner with the school to improve student performance.
District Committee Meetings In- Person At least once a semester	Committee Chair and Members	Sign-in sheet Copies of agenda and minutes of meeting	Parents will have the opportunity to serve on the committees and can see how different school programs work	Parents will offer their ideas and suggestions to improve school programs.

Description of Activity	Presenters	Materials	Evaluation/Implementation	Outcome
Recognition of Veterans Drive through  November	Staff, Students	Varies Student artwork, cards, gifts, decorations	Students will line along the drive with artwork and cards as veterans drive through.	To honor our family members who have served our country. To inform students of past events that have affected our country.
Grandparents Day In Person  October	Staff, Students	Varies Lunch	Community Senior Citizens will have the opportunity to have lunch and the school.	To honor the senior citizens of our community.
Christmas Program In Person  December	Staff, Students	Varies	Community Members and Parents will have the opportunity to attend the Christmas Program.	Parents and Community will have opportunity to see students perform in both music and drama.

**Goal #2: COMMUNICATING:**

Families and school staff engage in regular, two-way, meaningful communication about student learning.

Description of Activity	Presenters	Materials	Evaluation/Implementation	Outcome
Public Participation at School Board Meetings  In Person Ongoing	School Board Admin. Community Members	Varies	Staff, Parents and Community Members are welcome to attend the monthly school board meetings during open session. If someone wants to be put on the agenda to address the board about a concern or issue, they should contact the superintendent.	Parents and Stakeholders will feel welcomed, connected and valued as participants in the academic success of the school.
Title I Parent Meeting In Person  August and April/May	Admin. Title I Director	Technology (slide show), handouts, Parents Right to Know, Sign in Form, agenda	The Parents will be informed of their rights to be involved in their child's education, explanation of the requirements and the school's participation in the Title I program, will be provided with the school status and plans for improvement	Parents will be informed of the legal requirements of Title I, the school's yearly improvement goals, and the plans for the upcoming year.

Description of Activity	Presenters	Materials	Evaluation/Implementation	Outcome
<p>Preschool Screening And Parent Transition Meeting from PK to K</p> <p>In Person</p> <p>March</p>	<p>PK teacher, health staff, Kind. teacher</p>	<p>Varies</p>	<p>The parents will be informed of the PK program, the requirements needed to register, and the transition from PK to Kind.</p>	<p>Parents will have the opportunity to learn information that is pertinent to their child's needs, the transition to future educational opportunities, and ways to ensure their child's success. Parents will also have the opportunity to ask questions.</p>
<p>Reading Night</p> <p>In Person</p> <p>Once a Year</p>	<p>Admin., content level teachers, Reading Committee</p>	<p>Varies, books, manipulatives, Make it-Take it Activities</p>	<p>Parent Training provided with strategies and materials to help with reading at home.</p>	<p>Parents and stakeholders will feel welcomed, connected, and valued as collaborators and participants in the academic success of the school. Parents will also meet with teachers in person to collaborate and discuss strategies for use at home.</p>
<p>Math Night</p> <p>In Person</p> <p>Once a Year</p>	<p>Admin., content level teachers, Math Committee</p>	<p>Varies, books, manipulatives, Make it-Take it Activities</p>	<p>Parent Training provided with strategies and materials to help with math at home.</p>	<p>Parents and stakeholders will feel welcomed, connected, and valued as collaborators and participants in the academic success of the school. Parents will also meet with teachers in person to collaborate and discuss strategies for use at home.</p>

Description of Activity	Presenters	Materials	Evaluation/Implementation	Outcome
<p>Bullying Awareness In Person</p> <p>TBA</p>	<p>Counselor, Guidance Committee, Mental Health Partners</p>	<p>Technology (slide show), handouts, district policies and brochures</p>	<p>Parents will be provided information on the district's policy on bullying. Parents will be informed of what the counselor and classroom teachers are doing to promote: respectful, safe, and kind cultures in the classroom. Parents will learn helpful ways to teach their children how to resolve conflicts peacefully. Parents will also learn ideas on how to incorporate fun family ways of promoting a respectful and kind culture at home, school, and in the community.</p>	<p>Parents will be aware of the policy and procedures for reporting incidences of bullying, harassment, and intimidation. Parents will also be aware that the district's goals for promoting a respectful, safe, and diverse environment that is conducive to the academic success of all students in the district.</p>
<p>Parent/Teacher Conferences In Person – In October</p> <p>By phone, email, or in person in March</p>	<p>Admin, teachers, counselor</p>	<p>Sign in forms, various information in the form of student work, grades, behavior and attendance records.</p>	<p>Teachers will collaborate with parents on their child's progress in school and any steps that need to be taken.</p>	<p>Parents will have a better understanding of their child's achievement and/or ways to assist in their learning.</p>
<p>Parent Portal</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Admin, teachers, parents</p>	<p>Parent Portal</p>	<p>Parents may sign in to the parent portal to check on all current information concerning their child: grades, attendance, behavior, any money owed, etc.</p>	<p>Parents will be able to receive information concerning their child at any given time, keeping up to date on their child's achievement.</p>
<p>Technology based communication and communication by means of social media</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Admin., counselor, Title I Teacher, Teachers, PTO</p>	<p>Technology, Facebook School Page, Messenger, Remind, and paper calendars, menus, and flyers.</p>	<p>Parents are informed of school and class activities, upcoming meetings and events, via text or emails from teachers, as well as, traditional written announcements.</p>	<p>In addition to traditional methods, parents will have the opportunity to be informed of school events and personal communication</p>

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**Goal #3: SUPPORTING STUDENT SERVICES:**

Families and school staff continually collaborate to support students' learning and healthy development both at home and at school and have regular opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills to do this effectively.

Description of Activity	Presenters	Materials	Evaluation/Implementation	Outcome
Mental Health Grant Partnership with KVC Mental Health Services  (Grant) May2023-September 2024	Admin., Counselor, KVC staff	Varies, written information, individual and family counseling services, weekly classes for elementary students.	Parents will be able to receive additional mental health services for their child and/or family at no cost. They will learn about the additional support opportunities that are available to their family.	Parents will gain knowledge of the mental health support services that are available to students and families of the district.
ICAP Information  April/May each year	Counselor	Individual ICAPS for each 8 <sup>th</sup> grade graduating students	The counselor will meet individually with each 8 <sup>th</sup> grader before graduation and create an ICAP. This will be sent home for review by parents and then sent on to the receiving high school.	By reviewing the ICAP and signing, the parents will have a better understanding of their child's transition to high school and what to expect in the next six years of their child's education.
Awards/Honor Assembly In Person  May	Admin, Classroom Teachers	Varies, medals, awards, ribbons, certificates, trophies	Students in Grades 1-7 will receive academic awards during a school wide assembly that is attended by parents and community members	Parents and stakeholders will feel welcomed, connected, and valued as collaborators and participants in the academic success of the school.
Kindergarten and Eighth Grade Graduation  In Person May	Admin. Kind and Teachers from various academic departments (5-8)	Varies, diplomas, medals, awards, ribbons, certificates, trophies	Students in Kind. And 8 <sup>th</sup> grade will participate in a graduation program.	Parents and stakeholders will feel welcomed, connected, and valued as collaborators and participants in the academic success of the school.

Description of Activity	Presenters	Materials	Evaluation/Implementation	Outcome
Special Olympics In Person  April/May	Admin. Special education staff	Varies, Special Olympic events, field trip and lunch	Students will participate in the Special Olympics. Parents, family, and friends are invited to attend.	To pay special recognition to the special needs' students. Parents and Community will have opportunity to see students participate and share in their achievements.
Parents as Teachers In Person  Ongoing	Admin., parents as teachers Instructor	Varies, visits, activities, information	Parents of children from birth to early childhood will have the opportunity to participate in this program and receive valuable information on child development and preparation for school.	Parents will be able to receive information concerning their child, development and preparation for school attendance, keeping up to date on their child's achievement.

**Goal #4: SHARING POWER:**

Families and school staff are equal partners in decisions that affect students and families and together will inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs

Description of Activity	Presenters	Materials	Evaluation/Implementation	Outcome
PTO Meetings In Person  Monthly	Principal and Teachers and Parents, PTO officers	Varies	Parents meet and discuss ways to become involved in the school and how they can help the teachers/staff	Parents will offer their ideas and suggestions as to how they can partner with the school to improve student performance.
Parent/Teacher Conferences  In Person – In October  By phone, email, or in person in March	Admin, teachers, counselor	Sign in forms, various information in the form of student work, grades, behavior and attendance records.	Teachers will collaborate with parents on their child's progress in school and any steps that need to be taken.	Parents will have a better understanding of their child's achievement and/or ways to assist in their learning.
Back to School Packets  August	Admin. Counselor Title I Director Office Staff	Packet contains all necessary information for back to school and all forms that need to be	Packets are handed out on the first day of school. Parents review the information, sign the necessary forms, review the student handbook and return signed forms and	Parents will have the opportunity to be informed of school policies and events and personal communication that will help ensure the

		signed by parents.	information updates to the school office.	academic success of their child.
Description of Activity	Presenters	Materials	Evaluation/Implementation	Outcome
District Website Technology based communication and communication by means of internet  Ongoing	Admin Staff Technology Coordinator	District website	Parents are informed of school laws, programs, policies, student handbook, CSIP plan, parent portal, and class activities, upcoming meetings and events, via the school website.	Parents will have the opportunity to be informed of school policies and events and personal communication through use of technology.
Online Staff, Parent and Student Surveys  Ongoing – At least once a year	Admin CSIP Committee	Online surveys for parents, community, staff, and students	The Admin. will survey the stakeholders at least annually to determine concerns, needs for improvement, opinions, etc.	Parents will offer their ideas and suggestions as to how they can partner with the school to improve student performance.
CSIP Planning and Revisions  Ongoing	CSIP Team, Admin. School Board	The CSIP plan Surveys Review of data	The CSIP plan will be continually reviewed with various programs discussed at monthly school board meetings, CSIP Committee meetings, PD and committee meetings. The board will approve revisions annually.	The CSIP offers opportunities for parents to offer improvements or suggestions to the overall school program.
Review of MAP and EOC Test Scores with Parents  Within 15 days of receiving test scores from the state – Usually at Open House in August	Counselor Teachers Admin.	Copies of Test Scores	The counselor will distribute the test scores to the corresponding teachers and the teachers will distribute them to parents (usually at Open House). For those parents who do not attend Open House, the Counselor will contact parents with test scores.	Parents will have a better understanding of their child's achievement and/or ways to assist in their learning.

**Goal #5: COLLABORATING WITH THE COMMUNITY:**

Families and school staff collaborate with community members to connect students, families, and staff to expand learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation.

Description of Activity	Presenters	Materials	Evaluation/Implementation	Outcome
R-III School Junior Beta Club	Junior Beta Sponsors, students	Varies, community projects, pay it Forward, Christmas	This club is implemented to honor academics and to encourage community	Students learn leadership skills as they give back to the school and community.

Description of Activity	Presenters	Materials	Evaluation/Implementation	Outcome
R-III School Generation Jesus	Generation Jesus Sponsors, students	Varies, Back to School Bash, community projects, pay it Forward, Christmas Caroling at the Nursing Home, Testing Week Activities	service projects in the county. This club is implemented to encourage students who want to participate in a faith based on campus group.	Parents can then reinforce these skills at home. This club provides students with support from teachers and other students in a safe, caring environment. The outcome is to increase community involvement and to promote awareness of the presence of the faith community in the county
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant  Ongoing	Admin, cafeteria staff, teachers	Fresh fruits and vegetables, handouts	This program is implemented to promote a healthy lifestyle.	Children are exposed to fresh fruits/vegetables regularly. This helps parents when encouraging their children to try new fruits/vegetables at home.
Kathy Massey Memorial Scholarship  Yearly in May	Teachers, staff, scholarship committee, family of Kathy Massey	\$500 scholarship to graduation senior who also graduated from Gatewood School.	This scholarship was created to honor the memory of longtime PTO president, Kathy Massey.	By offering this scholarship, parents of former Gatewood graduates are offered the opportunity for financial assistance for continued education for their child.
Poplar Bluff Realty/Doniphan Branch Sponsorship  Ongoing	Realtors at the Poplar Bluff Realty Doniphan Branch	Varies, As needed Yearbooks, school T-shirts, PD lunches, student ice cream parties, etc.	This sponsorship provides Nonessential resources to the school to promote programs and recognize student achievement.	The outcome is to increase community involvement and to promote awareness of businesses in the county who value education and the programs of the district.
People's Bank Sponsorship  Ongoing	Community Outreach Person from People's Bank	Varies, As needed Graduation banners, back to school incentive gifts, assistance with field trips, etc.	This sponsorship provides Nonessential resources to the school to promote programs and recognize student achievement.	The outcome is to increase community involvement and to promote awareness of businesses in the county who value education and the programs of the district.
Partnership with the Ripley County Chamber of Commerce  Ongoing	Community Business Leaders	As Needed Special Programs, field trips, Special educational days, area careers	This partnership provides events and resources to the schools of the county and promotes career information.	This increases community involvement and to promote awareness of programs and activities in the community.
Partnership with KVC Mental Health Services  (Grant) May2023-September 2024	Admin., Counselor, KVC staff	Varies, written information, individual and family counseling services, weekly classes for elementary students.	Parents will be able to receive additional mental health services for their child and/or family at no cost. They will learn about the additional support opportunities that are available to their family.	Parents will gain knowledge of the mental health support services that are available to students and families of the district.

Description of Activity	Presenters	Materials	Evaluation/Implementation	Outcome
Partnership with the Ripley County Ministerial Alliance  Ongoing	Community Religious Leaders  Generation Jesus Leaders	Varies, Visits the school on the first day of testing, prays with the students, has breakfast with the students.	This partnership provides events and resources to the schools of the county and promotes faith-based interactions with students and positive relationships.  These ministers are invited to the school by the students involved in Generation Jesus and lead the activities that involve the faith-based community.	The outcome is to increase community involvement and to promote awareness of the presence of the faith community in the county.
Collaboration with Ripley County Health Department  Ongoing	Ripley County Health Department Staff	Varies, health fair, scoliosis screening, dental health services, information on current requirements.	This collaboration provides the school with health information and services. This may include health fairs, information, or community flu shots.	The outcome is community involvement and parents have up-to-date health information regarding their child.

Some information in this plan were modeled after: Missouri School Boards' Association and Millington Municipal Schools, Millington, TN.