

Parent, Guardian, and Family Engagement with Title I

Parent, Guardian and family engagement is a priority at ROCS. Parents and guardians are important stakeholders in their children's education. At ROCS, we provided a variety of ways for parents to be engaged and involved. As a public charter school, ROCS has received Title 1 funds and intends to apply for such funds in the future. The federal Title I program supports students with economic need in order to help create an equitable and high quality education for all students. Parent and family engagement is required as a part of the Title I program. The Title I program also supports the *Every Students Succeeds Act* (ESSA) by supporting students in their academics. Below are the details of how ROCS supports parent, guardian, and family engagement.

Every quarter ROCS teachers hold parent/guardian conferences for all parents and guardians. At these conferences, parents and guardians learn detailed information about their children's progress. They also have the opportunity to learn about additional ways that they can support their child in and out of the classroom. ROCS teachers provide this information in person as well as through electronic communications. The administration also provides additional information for parents in person and electronically, including things like school updates, new programs and events, and ways that families can further support the school. The school also communicates with all parents and guardians on a weekly basis through an email newsletter. We also use our website and social media to communicate details of upcoming dates, events, and important information.

The second way we involve parents is through the Parent Circle, which is the family organization that supports the school. The Parent Circle provides a variety of committees which allow families to volunteer and be involved in many ways. Parent circle leaders advertise their meetings and services throughout the year and participate in board meetings as non-voting board members. The Parent Circle allows families to volunteer and provide feedback and ideas for additional events and programs at the school. Parents and guardians are also encouraged to volunteer at the school through school events and field trips. Parents, guardians, and family members are also encouraged to attend parent workshops that are held throughout the school year.

School leadership also hosts parent and guardian meetings during ROCS' Open House event before the school year starts. At these meetings the leadership shares many details for the updated school year regarding things like school policies and procedures, school goals, academic results, details on events for the year, and ways that families can support the school. Parents and guardians are invited to ask questions at the meeting.

ROCS also has a relationship with the local Headstart Preschool program, which allows us to engage with the parents and guardians of new students prior to their enrollment at School. Throughout the school year, families have the opportunity to share their feedback by requesting to speak at a board meeting and by taking our annual survey. The results of the survey are used

to help set goals for the following school year. This feedback is reviewed by the board and the school administration collaboratively.

ROCS' faculty and staff also play an important role in supporting family involvement throughout the year. ROCS staff are expected to follow the School's communication policy, which guides them through the expectations for how they must communicate with families. Teachers also participate in schoolwide events and reach out to families about volunteering for field trips and other classroom events.

ROCS is fortunate to have many involved families. We take the time to share this information annually at a specific Title I parent meeting and we welcome family input on our Title I involvement and this policy.