

# Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success



**2023-2024**

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***Plan Revised June 2, 2023***

## **What is Title I?**

Ruskin Elementary School is identified as a school-wide Title I school as part of the Every Student succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support state and local reform efforts tied to challenging State academic standards to reinforce and enhance efforts 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.

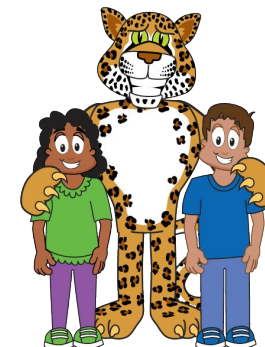
## **School Plan for Shared Student Achievement**

**What is it?** This is a plan that describes how Ruskin Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent and family engagement to support student learning. Ruskin values the contributions and engagement of parents and families in order to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Ruskin 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?** Ruskin Elementary welcomes all parent and family input and comments at any time regarding the plan. All feedback will be used to revise the plan for next year. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and provide feedback. We also distribute an annual survey to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of the 1 % funds set aside for parent engagement. Parents can also give feedback during various parent meetings and workshops to help revise the plan. All parents are invited to the Spring Evaluation meeting to review and revise our school plan.

**Who is it for? EVERYONE!** 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. Ruskin Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

**Where is it available?** Parents receive a copy at the beginning of the school year. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan from the Title I Parent Engagement Coordinator and view it on the school website.



### **Ware County School District Goals**

Increase the number of students scoring in the proficient and distinguished categories of the GMAS in ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies by 5% annually.

### **School Goals**

Increase the number of students scoring in the proficient and distinguished categories of the GMAS in ELA, Math, and Science by 3% in FY24.

### **Areas of Focus:**

#### **Kindergarten-5th Grade**

Building Literacy  
Math Fact Fluency & Math Computation  
Social and Emotional Learning

### **School-Parent Compacts**

Parents, students, and staff work together to develop the parent compact. Teachers provide strategies for parents to use at home. Meetings are held in the spring to revise the compact based on the school's goals and students' needs.

The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers.

This compact is an agreement that explains how parents, students, and teachers will work together to ensure that all students reach grade-level standards. Every parent will receive a compact to keep at home. During parent-teacher conferences and other parent meetings the compact will be reviewed and discussed.

# **Let's Get Together!**

Ruskin Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parent and family engagement and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community in order to improve student academic achievement:

### **Open House**

- ★ Meet your child's teacher and our friendly and helpful school staff for the year.

### **Annual Title I Meeting**

- ★ This is a meeting of learning and sharing about the requirements of the Title I program including the Family Engagement Plan, the School Wide Plan, the School-Parent Compact, and other information about our school.

### **Curriculum Workshops**

- ★ Teachers will provide information to parents on grade-level requirements, expectations, and opportunities. The teachers will be available to explain activities that are planned for the year, discuss curriculum, communication, and answer any questions.

### **Parent Workshops**

- ★ Gain knowledge about topics relevant to your child's education.

### **Spring Stakeholder Input Meeting**

- ★ We invite you to attend the Title I Stakeholder/Program Evaluation Parent Meeting. We will discuss the current Title I Parent Engagement Plan, Comprehensive Needs and Assessment/School Improvement Plan, and the School-Parent Compact, and ask for your ideas and opinions on next year's plan.

### **Family Engagement/Honors Day**

- ★ We invite you to attend our End of the Year Honors Day programs.

### **Parent-Teacher Conferences**

- ★ Parents may communicate with their child's teacher to schedule a meeting to discuss their student's progress and ways parents can help their children.

### **Kindergarten and 5th Grade Transition Meetings**

- ★ Students visit their new campuses for the upcoming school year.



## Online Parent Resources

Please visit our school website to obtain tips, tools, links and resources to assist you and your student's learning journey at Ruskin Elementary School.

## Parent and Family Engagement

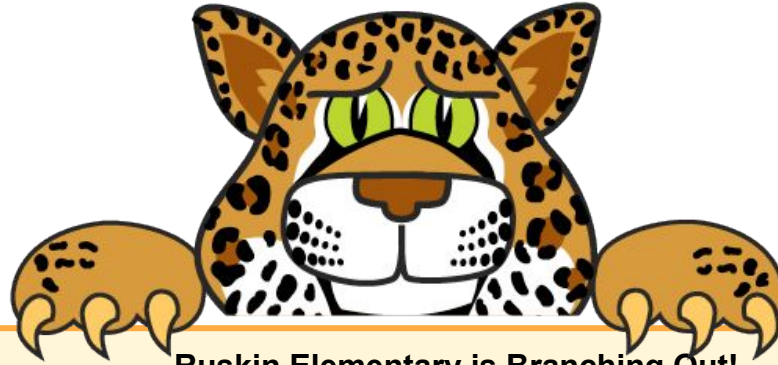
Ruskin Elementary believes that parent engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including:

- 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.

Ruskin Elementary is committed to helping our parents and families attend the parental activities listed in this plan.

Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare, transportation, translation services, or special accommodations in order to participate in our programs.

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## Ruskin Elementary is Branching Out!

Ruskin Elementary will take the following measures to promote and support parents 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, events, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish, posted on the school website, Facebook and included in the monthly school newsletter for all parents.
- ❖ Conduct staff development on parent engagement practices and effective strategies for staff to communicate and build partnerships with parents.
- ❖ Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- ❖ Share information in English and Spanish on the school website, and in the school newsletter for parents to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the 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, and flyers.
- ❖ Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations on the importance of parental engagement.
- ❖ Provide necessary materials for parents at conferences, meetings, and workshops to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- ❖ Collaborate with community leaders and business groups to increase participation and awareness of the school parental engagement plan and activities.
- ❖ Collect feedback from parents at events in order to respond to parent's request for support for parental engagement activities.
- ❖ Work with Pre-K and 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents to ensure a smooth transition from preschool to kindergarten as well as 5<sup>th</sup> grade to middle school.

## Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Ruskin Elementary and our parents follow the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community.

### These 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

Ruskin Elementary invites all parents to join the Parental Engagement Committee to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet four times during the school year, but parents can also submit their ideas or suggestions during all activities and meetings as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the Parental Engagement Committee, please contact Linsey Hayman at (912)287-2325.

## Family Engagement Team Committee

- ☐ Yes, I am interested and wish to join the Parent Engagement Committee.
- ☐ Please contact me so I can learn more about joining the Parent Engagement Committee.
- ☐ Please send me notification about future meetings and updates.

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

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

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

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

Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

For students to be academically successful, they **NEED** to be present at school. It is the goal of Ruskin Elementary to work with parents to ensure **ALL** students are present everyday.

We understand children get sick and emergencies arise. Please contact your child's teacher and/or school when your child is absent. When your child returns to school, they **MUST** bring a note signed by the parent explaining why they were absent.

