

Roscoe Collegiate Independent School District

Roscoe Collegiate Montessori Elementary School

Family Engagement Plan

At Roscoe Collegiate ISD, we value our families, and we understand the importance of involving our families in the education of our students. This plan outlines strategies to support family-to-family engagement, to provide a network of community resources, to involve families in the decision-making process, to equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning, to develop staff to support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks, and to evaluate and improve on the family engagement strategies used each year.

Roscoe Collegiate Montessori Elementary School (RCMES) is committed to engaging parents in meaningful educational experiences with their children. RCMES will solicit informal input from parents throughout the school year. Parents can formally provide input by way of parent survey and Title I year-end meetings each year during the spring.

Roscoe Collegiate Montessori Elementary School qualifies as a school-wide Title I campus, which means we use Title I funds to provide services for all students in grades 1-5. The Family Engagement Plan and the Parent/Teacher/Student Compacts are given to each child at the start of school with the School Handbook and Code of Conduct.

In conjunction with Meet the Teacher in August, we will have the annual meeting for parents. At this meeting information about Title I guidelines will be reviewed as well as the Parent/Teacher/Student Compact. Parents will be encouraged to become involved in the revising and updating of the policy as necessary and parent volunteers will be recruited for the various district committee appointments. Notice of this meeting is provided through written invitations to parents and through public notices.

Family-to-family support

- RCMES has created a Facebook page to encourage positive communication from one parent to another.
- RCMES will discuss the family engagement plan and the importance of family-to-family support to parents at an annual meeting.
- Parents will be encouraged to make connections with each other through classroom events.
- RCMES will host parent socials with a speaker (10-15 min), but then time to work in small groups followed by open conversation (Family Literacy Night) (Guest author).
- RCMES will offer an ongoing parent support group grounded in the Peace Education.

Network of Community Resources

- RCMES will provide a handout that will include a list of local resources with url addresses and phone numbers. These will be distributed in a Welcome Packet. The list shall include, but not be limited to
 - Texas Department of Human Services
 - Child Abuse Hotline
 - Health Department
 - Texas Health Steps
 - Child Advocacy Center
 - District Attorney's office
- RCMES will collect surveys each spring (for currently enrolled families) to determine family interests and needs. A survey will also be given to new families as they register in the spring and summer. The surveys will be evaluated in order to plan family activities, plan parent development classes, and revise the community resource list.
- RCMES will recruit/identify people who are willing to serve as translators as the need arises. Translators will agree to have their contact information listed on the local resources handout.

Family participation in decision-making

- RCMES will work through a site-based decision-making committee that will include at least one parent. That parent will also be invited to the Roscoe Collegiate ISD district site-based meetings.
- RCMES will solicit input from all parents concerning the parent-teacher-student compacts, and family engagement plan.
- RCMES will collect surveys each spring designed to allow parents an opportunity to evaluate the RCMES campus and provide suggestions for improvement.
- RCMES parents will be invited to the year-end Title I meeting designed to solicit parent input.
- RCMES will include parents from the RCMES campus in the annual Title I meeting held at the beginning of school.
- RCMES will sustain an open communication that makes teachers and administrative staff available to parents on a daily basis.

RCMES will equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning...

- RCMES will continue to educate all students using the Montessori Method of instruction, enhancing and extending socialization, and facilitating parent involvement for all RCMES parents.
- RCMES will provide parent training in the Montessori Method, curriculum, and assessment process to parents.
- RCMES will host a family night that will engage parents in the Montessori Method of Instruction.

- RCMES will implement a functional and effective Parent Resource Center to serve our Elementary School families.
- RCMES will provide the following:
 - Special Montessori Elementary informational meeting at the beginning of the year
 - Separate Montessori Elementary Meet the Teacher Night
 - Parent-Teacher conferences with all parents
- RCMES will publish a newsletter to keep parents informed of important information including program activities, suggestions for parents to become involved in their child's education, activities that can be done at home for little or no cost that correspond to activities done in the classroom, and upcoming events. This will be made available in digital format as well.
- RCMES will send home a monthly calendar of events occurring at the Montessori Elementary Campus.
- RCMES will provide information to parents in a format and language they understand.
- RCMES will provide parents frequent reports on student progress. Report cards are sent home every 6 weeks.

RCMES will provide professional development opportunities for educators on culturally responsive, evidence-based strategies that support education of the child.

- RCMES will promote and develop family engagement as a core strategy to improve teaching and learning among all educators and staff.
- RCMES will provide essential professional development for educators in understanding communication and engagement with families.
- RCMES will train children to greet and say good-bye to teachers, parents, visitors, and their classmates as a means to show respect for all program participants.
- RCMES will use developmentally appropriate activities to help children understand differences in families, cultures, and traditions.
- RCMES will make space available for staff to meet with families privately.

Evaluate family engagement efforts and use the evaluations for continuous improvement

- RCMES will include family engagement efforts on the spring survey designed to identify family interests and needs.
- RCMES will evaluate parent survey responses during the campus comprehensive needs assessment during the spring and summer.
- Changes to family engagement efforts and the family engagement plan will be highly dependent on parent input.
- In May of each year the SBDM Committee will review and evaluate all aspects of the parent involvement program and the Family Engagement Plan. This meeting will be advertised in the newspaper inviting all parents to attend. Parent surveys including questions about the effectiveness of the program will be distributed in March each year and the results will be tabulated. Changes will be made to the Parental Involvement Policy based on the results of this annual review.

