



BROWNSVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT TITLE I PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY Russell Elementary 2015-2016



I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Russell Elementary is committed to providing a quality education for every student. Partnerships with parents and the community are essential to this goal as neither home nor school can achieve this goal independently. Everyone gains if school and home work together to promote high student achievement. Parents play an important role as children's first teacher and their support is critical to their children's success. Russell Elementary intends to include parents in all aspects of the school's Title I programs to create a school-home partnership that will promote student success.

Grade level goals for all children in Russell Elementary will be distributed to parents with the expectation that *all* students will work toward these goals. Russell Elementary recognizes that some students may need the extra assistance of Title I programs to reach these goals and is committed to providing that support.

- Extended Day Tutorial
- Rotation Tutorial
- 21st Century Community Learning Centers

II. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN DEVELOPING AND REVISING THE POLICY

The Russell Elementary Advisory Committee consisting of campus parents, teachers, principal and community members developed the campus Parental Involvement Policy. Russell Elementary will annually form an Advisory Committee to review the campus Parental Involvement Policy and to revise it as necessary. Special attention will be given to recruiting parent volunteers of children served in the Title programs, with a goal of having at least three parents on the committee.

- September 2015
- May 2016

III. ANNUAL TITLE I CAMPUS PARENT MEETINGS

Russell Elementary will hold an annual Title I meeting for parents. The meeting will be held during the fall semester. The purpose of this meeting is to provide parents with information regarding Title I guidelines and services offered to students utilizing Title I funds as stated in the current campus Parental Involvement Policy. The Parental Involvement Policy will also be distributed to parents. Parents will be given the opportunity to offer their suggestions for any revisions to the policy at a set meeting. Parents may also volunteer to serve on the district-wide and/or school's advisory committee.

The annual meeting will be held at flexible times to increase the opportunity for parental participation. English and Spanish translation will be available. Written notices in both languages will be sent to parents

notifying them of the date and times of the meetings. Parent volunteers, parent trainers, and the parent liaison will also contact other parents by phone regarding the meeting. Volunteers who speak both English and Spanish will make all contacts.

- September 2015

IV. SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

According to Title I regulations, Russell Elementary must share responsibility with parents for high student achievement by jointly developing a school-parent-student compact. These compacts must outline the responsibilities of parents, staff, and students for promoting high student performance. Parents on Russell Elementary's Advisory Committee will be involved in designing and reviewing the compact. Students' responsibilities may vary by grade level.

All parents will receive the compact with a checklist of the responsibilities that teachers, parents, and students have for helping students achieve their goals. Parents are urged to discuss the compact with their children before they and their children sign the document.

- Disseminated to parents September 2015
- Reviewed and Revised May 2016

V. TYPES OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Russell Elementary will provide opportunities for parent engagement to become involved in their children's education. Russell Elementary values both the at-home contributions of parents and those that take place at the school or in the community. Reading to children at home and talking with them at family meals are as important as volunteering at school and serving on advisory committees. Many types of parental involvement are needed in school-home-community partnership to help all children succeed. In alignment with BISD's philosophy and mission, the Russell Elementary Campus Improvement Plan (CIP) includes a parental involvement component. All parent and community volunteers must comply with the district policy regarding State of Texas background checks.

- Families in Training
- Weekly parent meetings/trainings
- CATCH Nutrition Program
- 21st Century Community Learning Centers Parent Component
- Eat Lunch with your Child Day
- Read to your Child Day
- Field Day

VI. ADAPT PROGRAMS TO THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY

Each year Russell Elementary will assess the needs of parents and children in the community through a variety of measures, including questionnaires sent home to parents, so that Title I programs can be tailored

to meet those needs. Workshops and other programs will be available to address the expressed needs. Parents will be notified of these opportunities by the individual schools. Parents may also call the Parental Involvement Department to express an interest in a particular workshop topic or to make recommendations about the program.

- May 2016

VII. STAFF-PARENT COMMUNICATION

Communication with parents may include a school newsletter distributed by each school at least four times a year. Notices and activity packets sent home with children, telephone calls, conferences, and home visits will promote school-home communication as well. Notices sent home should be in both English and Spanish. Parents are encouraged to take the initiative in calling their child's teacher or the campus administrator when they have a concern. Staff should receive training on techniques to improve home-school communication. Parents may participate in this training.

- Monthly Newsletter
- Fliers
- District and school website
- School Messenger

VIII. EVALUATION

The campus Advisory Committee, which may include parents of Title I, Migrant, Bilingual, Special Needs and GT students, will participate in the process of school review and improvement. This committee will collect information in a variety of ways, including campus visits and class observations.

Parents will also be asked for their input on the content and effectiveness of the campus Title I parental involvement program through an annual evaluation of the program. The evaluation will include an assessment of overall increases in parental involvement and barriers to parental participation that still need to be overcome. Russell Elementary will revise its campus Parental Involvement Policy and Campus Improvement Plan on the basis of this annual review.

- April 2016