

RIO GRANDE CITY GRULLA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



RGCGISD PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT DISTRICT POLICY ESSA Section 1116

2021-2022

Rio Grande City Grulla Independent School District will implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I programs. Those programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation and feedback from parents of participating children.
- The school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the Title I requirements of ESSA Section 1116, and include, as a component, a school parent compact. (Section 1116 (a)(1))
- The school district will incorporate this district-wide parent and family engagement (PFE) policy into its District Improvement Plan (DIP). (Section 1116 (a)(2)). Policy will be available on the school district website (Eng. /Spanish).
- In carrying out the Title I parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will deliver a myriad of full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited Emergent Bilinguals (EB) proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- The school district will engage the parents of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I funds reserved for parental

involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition: *Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring— (A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning; (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; (C) that 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;*

Mission and Statement Purpose

Rio Grande City Grulla Independent School District is dedicated to develop a family, community, and school partnership program so that parents can become partners in the educational process of their children. Thus family, school, and community will be collaborators working together to impact students' achievement and self-esteem. RGCGISD will develop and nurture partnerships with parents/caregivers, students, and community stakeholders to empower them by providing information and opportunities to become involved in the education of their children. Parental engagement is the key to a child's success in school. Furthermore, RGCGISD will involve parents in all aspects of the various local, state, and federal programs in RGCGISD schools.

Research Indicates

Research shows that schools can improve their students' achievement by engaging parents. Parents are the most invested adults in the pathway of their children's education simply because they are their first teachers. They are uniquely positioned to increase the one-to-one instruction that children receive by supplementing it at home, to facilitate attendance by monitoring their children's daily activities, to instill the importance of education and higher education, and more. Therefore, parents play a vital role of the solutions to educational challenges. Unfortunately, in many of the school districts, parents face each day with numerous obstacles that create a gap in the involvement of the school and families (Liontos, 1992).

Parent Involvement in Developing the Policy

- RGCGISD will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- Campus visitation by Title I coordinators and directors from the district level to serve in an advisory capacity to Title I campuses
- A district parent advisory council (PAC) to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs
- A district meeting of parents/caregivers, community members, and campus personnel to provide feedback and input on campus plans, policies and budget allocations
- Appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities

Rio Grande City Grulla Independent School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district/school Parent and Family Engagement Plan:

- Actively recruit parents/caregivers to participate in parent advisory capacity
- Schedule meetings at convenient times and locations to participate in a comprehensive review of policy, budget, and programs for parent involvement
- Establish a task force to implement parent involvement activities and initiatives
- Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or afternoon/evening, and after school enrichment programs, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement
- Facilitate communication between parents/caregivers and Title I campuses through the Parent and Community Engagement Center (FACE).

Annual Meetings for Title I Parents

Rio Grande City Grulla Independent School District uses Title I funds to provide school-wide services for all students enrolled in Title I campuses. The Title I campuses will hold at least one meeting annually to review Title I guidelines and services offered at campus level. Copies of the district's current Parent and Family Engagement Policy and campus designed Parent-Student Compact will be distributed at the meeting. Both documents will be provided in English and in Spanish. The meeting will be held at a convenient time and location. Notice of the meeting will be provided through public announcements, social media, parent outreach apps, and school based information flyers. Translators will be available to help with non-English speaking parents/caregivers (section 1116 (e)(5)).

RGCGISD will provide parents of participating children, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practically possible. The district will, with the assistance of its Title I schools:

- Provide materials and training to empower parents to have an impact and improve their children's academic achievement, such as training in the following areas (Section 1116(e) (2)):
 - **Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)**
 - **The Use of Technology**
 - **Face-to-Face Instruction/Virtual Instruction after Pandemic**
 - **Literacy Parent Camps**
 - **STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics) Parent Camps**
 - **Academic Success**
 - **PowerSchool/Parent Portal Access**
 - **Monitor Progress**
 - **Mental Health Awareness**
 - **Emotional and Social Support (Anxiety, Depression...)/Growth/Bullying/Self-Esteem**
 - **Set Academic Goals**
 - **Ways to Help at Home (Reading, Math, Science and Social Studies)**
 - **Encourage Safety and Responsibility**
 - **Explore Careers**
 - **Education Options and Opportunities**
 - **Plan for the Future**
 - **Community College Fairs**
 - **Life Skills**
 - **Financial Literacy**
 - **Truancy**
 - **Healthy Body-Healthy Mind**
 - **Drug Awareness/Counseling Support**
 - **Parent Seminars-ESC Region One Services**
- Create a two-way communication (School-Home) where the Parental Involvement Department will provide resources to the parents/caregivers in the different areas of academics (reading, writing, math and science). The department goal is to **Enable, Educate and Empower (3E's)** and provide the parent/caregiver with hands-on activities to **Take -Home and Teach (THT)** the student in the areas of concern/skills discussed during teacher-parent conferences. (Section 1116 (a)(2)(C)) and (Sections 1116(e)(4))
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions
- Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents as part of the building capacity component

- Arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school

Matching Parental Involvement Programs to the Needs of the Community

RGCGISD will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities (Section 1116 (e) (2)):

- The school/district will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following (Section 1116 (e)(1)):
 - the state's academic content standards
 - the state's student academic achievement standards
 - the state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - the requirements of Title I
 - how to monitor their child's progress (PowerSchool)
 - how to work with educators

RGCGISD will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I with the following programs to empower parents and various areas of interest to the parents, families and community:

- **Head Start**
- **Start Preschool Programs/CDI**
- **Family Literacy Programs**
- **Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid (TRLA)**
- **English Language Classes (Region One)**
- **Parenting and Father Involvement Programs.**
- **Border of Regions**
- **Public Library (Rio Grande City)**
- **Texas AgriLife Extension Services-Starr**
- **Serving Children and Adults in Need (SCAN)**
- **MHP Salud**
- **Texas Latinas Advocacy Network(TEX-LAT/NLIRH)**
- **Health Care**
- **Dental Quest**
- **Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas-Healthy Styles**
- **Driscoll Health Plan**
- **Behavioral Health Center (South Texas)**
- **LUPE (La Unión del Pueblo Entero)**

Staff and Parent Communications

With the assistance of its Title I schools and parents, the district will educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools. The school/district will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- Translators provided at the campus level for Spanish speaking parents
- District phone call out system set up in English and Spanish based upon the primary language identified for the home
- Translations of all Title I information will be provided in both English and Spanish

In carrying out parental involvement communication, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand.

School-Parent Compact

As a component of the school-level parental involvement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. This compact will be provided by each Title I campus and parent/campus/student signature will remain on file for easy access. The parent compact will be reviewed yearly for updates and revision by the Campus Site Base Decision Making Committee (**SBDM**) and the Parent Advisory Committee (**PAC**).

Evaluation

Rio Grande City Grulla Independent School District will take action to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background. The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective

parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary and with the involvement of parents its parental involvement policies. (Sections 1116 (a)(2)(D))

Rio Grande City Grulla ISD Parent and Family Engagement(PFE) Policy is considered an on-going living document and will be annually reviewed and updated as needed throughout the school year. Any update or revised resources and/or activities will be posted on the district website www.rgccisd.org.

This policy was adopted by Rio Grande City Grulla Independent School District on _____.

Signed by Authorized Official: _____ Date: _____

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RIO GRANDE CITY GRULLA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OFFICERS

2021-2022

Name	Title
Mr. Joe Vera	Chairperson
Mrs. Kristal Montalvo	Vice-Chairperson
Mrs. Lupita Padron	Secretary
Mr. Exiquio Villarreal	Parliamentarian

Members of the Committee

Name	Title
Mrs. Norma McKee	Family Engagement Director
Mrs. Adela Peña	State and Federal Program Adm.
Mrs. Maria Haro	RGCGISD Parent
Mrs. Marie Solis	SCAN-Community/RGCGISD Parent

(PAC-By-laws are available upon request)