

Monte Sano Elementary School

Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success

2020-2021 School Year

*Monte Sano Elementary School
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<https://www.rcboe.org/montesano>

Plan Revised August 14, 2020

What is Title I?

Monte Sano Elementary is identified as a Title I school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to the challenging State academic standards 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 Monte Sano Elementary will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Monte Sano Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents and family members to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Monte Sano Elementary 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?

Monte Sano Elementary School invited all parents to attend our annual School Forum this fall to review and revise this parent and family engagement policy, as well as the schoolwide plan, our school-parent compact, and the family engagement budget. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year through an online form. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We also distribute an annual survey online to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family engagement. Parents and family members can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities during the school year including our annual Community Cares event.

Who is it for?

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. Monte Sano Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, and of migratory children.

Where is it available?

At the beginning of the year, the Richmond County Parent and Family Engagement Plan is included in the student handbook that is given to all students. The Monte Sano Parent and Family Engagement Plan will also be posted on the school website and at the Title 1 Annual Meeting. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Center.

2020-2021 District Goals

1. During the 2020-2021 school year, RCSS will increase the number of highly effective teachers and leaders hired and retained in RCSS by 3% to impact academic achievement across all content areas
2. During the 2020-2021 school year, identify and expand technology access by 60% of the student population in all RCSS schools and provide professional learning options that engage staff in improving their digital learning knowledge to improve student achievement based on district strategic goals.

2020-2021 School Goals

By the end of the 2021 school year, 60% of students K-5th will be on Reading grade level and 50% of students K-5th will be on grade level as determined by the Spring i-Ready diagnostic.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Monte Sano Elementary and our families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop that explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compact will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, teachers, and all other stakeholders. The school-parent compacts

also are shared with parents during Open House, the Title 1 Annual Meeting, online, during parent-teacher conferences and in the Parent Resource Center.

Let's Get Together!

Monte Sano Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. Due to current circumstances, meetings will take place as safety precautions will allow.

Virtual Input & Revision Meeting – August 14, 2020

Due to safety concerns this meeting was postponed in the Spring of 2020 and will take place on by Zoom with all interested parents.

Virtual Open House – August 31, 2020

Due to safety concerns a Virtual Open House will be held to allow parents to meet their children's teachers and learn ways that they can help their children be successful during this challenging year.

Virtual Annual Title I Meeting – September 15, 2020

We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements. Invitations will be posted on the school website, as well as the school's calendar.

Virtual Parent Canvas Temperature Check – October 2020

Parents will be able to share how their experience with a new learning platform is working. Parents will be allowed to make suggestions, ask questions, as well as tell the parts they feel are working well.

Parent-Teacher and Student Conferences – October 8, 2020 & March 11, 2021

Scheduled updates on your child's progress.

Black History Celebration – February 2021

Gain knowledge about black history, people and topics relevant to your child's education

Read Across America – Parent Read Along – March 2021

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

Parent Appreciation – April 3, 2021

A celebration of family engagement and the recognition of its impact on school and student success.

Input and Revision Meeting – April 2021

A forum for parents and family members to participate in roundtable discussions with the principal and staff regarding the schoolwide plan, parent and family engagement policy, school-parent compacts, and the family engagement budget.



Parent Resource Center

Come visit the Parent Resource Center in the media center to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child. Computers are available for parents to explore the Parent Portal and educational resources.

Monday – Friday, 7:30 am – 2:00 pm

Parent and Family Engagement

Monte Sano Elementary believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- 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.

Monte Sano Elementary is committed to helping our parents and families attend the family activities listed in this policy. Please call us if you need assistance with child care or transportation in order to participate in our programs.

Beth Strickland, Instructional Specialist
(706) 481-1813

Monte Sano Elementary is Branching Out!

Monte Sano Elementary will take the following measures to promote and support parents and family members 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, meetings, and other activities is published in an understandable format and language and posted on the school website.
- ✓ Provide trainings for staff on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement with reading and math activities for our students outside of the classroom. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- ✓ Partner with early childhood programs, middle and high schools, college and career ready resources or organizations, parent resource centers, or other programs (as applicable) to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.
- ✓ Share information for parents to understand the school's curriculum, academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators. Provide parents with individual student assessment results and interpretation of those results.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, through the school website, phone messages, and flyers.
- ✓ Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement. These meetings will be offered at various times (morning and evening) and in various formats.
- ✓ Offer Infinite Campus account set up and assistance with usage for parents and family members to monitor their student's progress.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents and family members at all events and post a survey on the school website in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.



Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Monte Sano Elementary and our parents have adopted 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 Council

Monte Sano Elementary has developed a School Council to share ideas and ways to involve other parents and family members to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The School Council meets four times during the school year, but all parents and family members can also submit their ideas or suggestions at any of the school activities and meetings, as well as through our parent surveys and website.



School Volunteer

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the Volunteer Team.
- Please contact me so I can learn more in joining the School Volunteer Team.
- Please send me notifications about future Volunteer Training Workshops.

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this policy that you feel is not satisfactory with the students' and the school's goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the Main Office:

Name: (optional) _____

Telephone Number: (optional) _____

