

Ringgold Primary School  
Parent Engagement Policy  
2016-2017

Principal Nancy Gurganus

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<http://rps.catoosa.k12.ga.us>

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## What Is Title I?

Ringgold Primary School is identified as a Title I school as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Title I is designed to support state and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards in order 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 parental involvement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with all parents a written parental involvement policy.

## GOALS FOR STUDENT LEARNING

### District Goal:

1. To improve the percentage of students scoring proficient (levels 3, 4) in grades 3 through 8.
2. To improve the percentage of students graduating from high school.

### School Goals:

1. K-2: A minimum of 60% of the students will show at least 30% growth rate from the fall benchmark assessment to the spring benchmark assessment.

## School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Ringgold Primary and our families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop together that explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed at all parent meetings and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students and community. Using this input, the School and Parent Advisory Councils will revise the compact. School-parent compacts are kept at home and at school.

## We Want Your Input

**We want your input.** Please take this document and make suggestions below or on the document itself. We want to improve Parent Engagement at Ringgold Primary School. Let us know how Title I can do a better job. Return this document to your Parent Engagement Coordinator or to the school office.

### **Suggestions:**

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Ringgold Primary School is committed to helping our parents attend the Parental activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs. We will help with this as we can do so.

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## School Plan for

### Shared Student Achievement

**What is it?** This is a plan that describes how Ringgold Primary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. RPS values the contributions and involvement of parents in order to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that RPS will support parent 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 developed?** Ringgold Primary welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding the plan. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for next year. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and post feedback throughout the year. We also distribute an annual survey to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent involvement. Parents can also give feedback at any time at the Family Resource Center, school office, or any parent activity.

**Who is it for?** All the families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Ringgold Primary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

**Where is it available?** The plan is available at all parent meetings and at <http://rps.catoosa.k12.ga.us>. Parents can get a copy of the plan in the Family Resource Center.

### Parent Involvement Program and Activities

- The parents of students served by the Title I program at Ringgold Primary School are invited to an **Annual Title I Meeting** where they are given an explanation of the Title I program and parent involvement policy, compact, and Title I plan and its components and requirements. In subsequent years, revision of these documents will be done by the end of the school year in order that these documents can be distributed at the beginning of the next school year. These documents are being distributed as parents and staff completes them. The compact stresses the importance of communication between teachers and parents. Parents, students, administrators, and teachers sign the compact indicating the role each has in the education process. The compact includes items such as:
  - ◇ Monitoring attendance
  - ◇ Attending parent meetings
  - ◇ Supporting school activities
  - ◇ Attending to the physical and medical needs of children
- **Parent meeting** are offered throughout the school year on a variety of topics and at various times of the day to maximize parent participation. Notification will be done through a variety of media including newsletters, postcards, telephone calls, letters, etc. Transportation and child care will be offered if it can be arranged. Attempts will be made to eliminate barriers to parent involvement.
- **Timely information** will be provided to parents of participating students regarding:
  - ◇ **School programs** – Information is discussed throughout the school year. Teachers, administrators, and academic coach remind parents of the various school programs available for their children.
  - ◇ **Results of the annual school review (including school performance profiles)** - School administrators are responsible for reporting this information to parents of the school. This is done through the newspaper, website, and Adequate Yearly Progress letter.
  - ◇ **Opportunities to volunteer in the school** – Parents are invited to volunteer at RPS. A short training is provided. Volunteers will be utilized based on their strengths, talents, and availability.

## **RPS Wants to Keep You In The Know and Wants You to Inform RPS!**

- **Individual student assessment results and interpretation of those results** – The school is responsible for disseminating test information to parents. Individual conferences are scheduled regularly.
- **A description and explanation of the school curriculum** – Ringgold Primary provides each student a handbook at the beginning of the school year. A back to school orientation provides the parents with an overview of the curriculum. Workshops, letters, pamphlets, etc. are used to aid in the understanding of the state standards.
- **Assessments used to measure student progress and proficiency** – Teachers, the academic coach, and the school administration can explain the school’s assessments and proficiency levels to parents and students. Report cards keep parents informed. Two way communications is solicited. Teachers and staff offer detailed explanations, when needed. The faculty and staff provide assistance to parents as they monitor their children’s progress.
- **Opportunities for parents to formulate suggestions, share experiences with other parents and participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children** – Opportunities are made available throughout the school year at the parent meetings and/or workshops. Parents are encouraged to share ideas and participate in discussions.
- Responses to **parent suggestions**: Parents evaluate each parent workshop. Parents are encouraged to make suggestions for improvement. When necessary, immediate action is taken on certain suggestions after consulting with the Title I Coordinator and school administrators. Any unsatisfactory parent comments are collected and acted upon appropriately by the Title I Coordinator and school administrators.
- **Faculty and staff are educated each year on the importance of parental involvement** through open communication with the Parent Engagement Coordinator, parent engagement literature, and presentations at faculty and grade level meetings.
  - ◇ Parents receive **assistance** in understanding the areas of **State’s content standards and student performance standards** – The classroom teachers and staff explain the state’s content standards, GKIDS, GAA, and benchmark tests.
  - ◇ **State and local assessments** are explained to parents throughout the year.
  - ◇ **Requirements of Title I, Part A** are explained to parents at the Annual Meeting each school year.
  - ◇ **Ways to monitor their child’s progress and suggestions on how to improve the academic performance** of their child will be ongoing for the parents.
  - ◇ **Ways to participate in decisions affecting their child** are explained to parents in an ongoing fashion. Parents are encouraged to become involved in their child’s education. Parent/teacher conferences and phone calls are highly recommended.
- The **Parent Involvement Coordinator (PIC)** provides assistance and information to teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff members concerning the value and importance of parent contributions. The coordinator provides assistance in how to reach out to communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners in addition to maintaining the Family Resource Center. The Parent Involvement Coordinator presents at a faculty meeting and is available for consultation. The PIC coordinates a volunteer program.
- Ringgold Primary School works with **community**-based organizations and businesses. Information about opportunities for organizations and businesses to work with parents and schools and encouraging the formation of partnerships are targeted. Business representatives are encouraged to become involved in the school, such as visiting classrooms and attending parent meetings as guest speakers and resource people. Providing motivation and encouragement to students as well as providing career and business information are the focus. The school coordinates and integrates parent involvement programs with agencies and other programs such as Communities in Schools, ESOL, and Homeless (McKinney-Vento) etc.
- Coordination and integration with other outreach programs is sought. Information from the Catoosa County Collaborative is brought monthly to the school by the school counselor and the Parent Involvement Coordinator. The Collaborative is comprised of all service organizations in Catoosa County.

### **Parental Involvement**

Ringgold Primary believes that parent involvement means the participation of parents 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;
- The carrying out of other activities as described in this plan.

### **Ringgold Primary Family Activities**

Math Night (Fall)      Reading Night (Spring)  
Choral Concerts  
Fall Festival  
Parent Workshops