



Title I Parental Involvement Policy

River Oak Charter School recognizes that student success results when students, their families, the community, the staff, and the charter-granting agency work in a concerted manner to ensure each student's achievement. The staff will strive to ensure that all parties have the information they need to support students and the school in meaningful ways.

1. Statement of Purpose

River Oak Charter School (ROCS) strives, as a dynamic community of teachers, parents/guardians and students, to inspire in the child a love of life and learning, preparing every student for a successful future and to make a contribution to the community. To accomplish this, we establish and enhance partnerships with the students and their families as well as with the community. *ROCS* families play a key role in supporting the activities of the school including attending events, participating in meetings, supervising at-home study, and monitoring academic progress. This *Title I Parental Involvement Policy* is designed to adhere with Title I requirements.

Information about parent involvement expectations will be distributed to all parents/guardians in the *School and Family Partnership Agreement* that is also available at the school office upon request. We recognize that some students may need the extra assistance available through the Title I program to reach their goals. *ROCS* will include parents/guardians in all aspects of the district's Title I program. The goal is a school-home partnership that will help all students to prepare for future success.

2. Parental Involvement in Developing the Policy

The Site Council, consisting of parents, teachers and the Administrator, developed the *ROCS Title I Parental Involvement Policy*. In compliance with Title I, all participants will be equally welcome.

3. Annual Meeting through Parent Council

Every year, the Administrator will discuss the specifics concerning the instructional objectives and methods of the Title I program and resources with parent representatives on the Parent Council. The parents will be given information about the Title I guidelines for serving underperforming students and a copy of the *ROCS Title I Parental Involvement Policy* to review and discuss. They will be offered a chance to become involved in revising the policies as needed. Parents will also be encouraged to volunteer to serve on the Charter Council, Parent Council, and Site Council. Translation (English-Spanish) is available.

4. School and Family Partnership Agreement

In keeping with Title I regulations, *ROCS* shares responsibility with parents/guardians for high student performance by signing a *School and Family Partnership Agreement* that outlines how parents/guardians, staff, and students share responsibility for promoting high student achievement. All parents/guardians may be involved in revising these compacts by participating on the School Site Council.

5. Types of Parental Involvement

Parents/Guardians may become actively involved in their student's education in diverse ways. The Charter Council, Parent Council, Site Council, and Administrator encourage specific strategies:

- 1) Attending school-based events such as plays, festivals, Back to School Night, Parent Night meetings, the Annual School meeting, and participating in activities such as field trips and fundraisers;
- 2) Participating as members of the Charter Council, Parent Council, and Site Council;
- 3) Supervising at-home study;
- 4) Monitoring academic progress by following up on missing work and low grades;
- 5) Assuring student preparedness and proper attendance and punctuality;
- 6) Becoming classroom volunteers;
- 7) Attending parent enrichment opportunities such as school sponsored education classes; and,
- 8) Limiting students' exposure to electronic media and games, especially in grades K-3.

6. Matching Programs to the Needs of Our Community

ROCS will continually assess the needs of parents/guardians and children, so that Title I programs are revised when necessary and/or appropriate, to support individual student achievement. This shall be accomplished through a) parent surveys, and/or b) student surveys, and/or c) interviews of parents/guardians by teachers, staff, the Administrator, and various council members.

7. Staff-Parent Communication

Healthy communication with parents/guardians will involve all students' families. Methods will include but not be limited to: meeting with families for newly enrolling students; use of traditional mail as well as e-mails; a web page; newsletter blog; school calendar of events; teacher conferences; notes sent home with students; individual calls home; and school-wide notifications using the Telephone Parent Notification System (*One Call Now*). Upon enrollment, parents/guardians are encouraged to notify teachers directly of any concerns regarding academic needs and are always welcome to speak to our Administrator as well.

8. Evaluation

The Site Council will be involved in the process of school review, planning, and improvement. The group will collect and review information about student achievement. There will be an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the *Title I Parental involvement Policy*; parents will be asked for their suggestions. The evaluation will include an assessment of any changes in parental involvement and an identification of barriers to parental participation. ROCS will revise its *Title I Parental Involvement Policy*, if necessary, on the basis of this annual review. The site administrative staff will be responsible for adhering to all elements of the regulation and policy.

9. Barriers to Parent Participation

Site Council will ensure that barriers to participation by ROCS parents/guardians in school activities are identified and removed. Particular attention will be given to parents/guardians who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background.

