**Ridgedale School**

**Family Engagement Plan 2020 - 2021**

The following Family Engagement Plan outlines how Ridgedale School, our families and our community continue to increase our shared responsibility for improving student behavior and academic achievement. Ridgedale School, our students, our families and community will be engaging in activities, services and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. (ESEA)

***Tennessee Standards***

Standard 1: Welcoming All Families into the School Community

Standard 2: Communicating Effectively

Standard 3: Supporting Student Success

Standard 4: Sharing Power

Standard 5: Collaborating with the Community

***Standard 1: Welcoming all Families into the School Community***

* The building has been decorated appropriately for each grade level in the building.
* Family Open House/Programs are held twice per year. Families are invited to visit the school, tour the school, and spend time in their child’s classroom. Due to COVID-19, these opportunities will be held virtually during the 20-21 SY.
* Community Welcome Back to School Festival is traditionally held which includes our community partners. However, due to COVID-19, it was cancelled this year.
* We have adopted a staff policy of how to speak to guardians that is inclusive of all possible family situations.
* Parents/Guardians were invited to participate in a discussion about how to spend Title 1 Funds.
* If parents are unable to attend IEP meetings, the school team will complete a home visit to obtain the parent’s involvement.
* All parents/guardians are invited and encouraged to participate in an Enrollment Meeting when their child is enrolled in the Middle School Alternative Program.
* Some students in the Middle School Alternative Program create a presentation regarding the changes in their behavior and present it to their parents and staff from their base school.

***Standard 2: Communicating Effectively***

* Each parent/guardian receives an electronic daily communication note from their child’s teacher(s).
* Each teacher maintains a CANVAS home page that is updated regularly with information specific to their classroom (i.e. newsletters, schedules, etc.)
* Teachers are required to return parent phone calls within 24 hours.
* The school marque is updated regularly to give current information.
* RTI2 information is sent home every 4 ½ weeks.
* IEP Progress is given to parents at the same time report cards are given, every 4 ½ weeks.
* Teachers and Administration make regular positive communication to families.
* The school’s website is updated regularly.
* Each student is provided a Student Handbook upon entering Ridgedale School and it is posted on our school website for reference.
* All families are offered access to information about the Family Resource Center, Clothing Center and other appropriate community resources at their orientation meeting. Links to those resources are available all the time on our school website.
* Title 1 Handbooks are distributed to all students at the beginning of the school and to students when they enroll throughout the school year.
* Administration and other school support staff have an open door policy for parents/guardians, teacher and community members to discuss concerns or questions.
* A Twitter account is utilized to share activities and happenings at Ridgedale.
* The principal utilizes School Messenger to communicate school happenings, updated information, etc.

***Standard 3: Support Student Success***

* Ridgedale has a full time instructional Coach that provides support to teachers to continually improve instruction.
* RTI2 provides needed reading and/or math intervention to those students falling below the 25 percentile on the universal screening. Students are moved off or between tiers based on regularly assessments.
* All staff have been trained in Restorative Practices, Positive Behavior Support, Trauma-Informed Practices, Interventions, and ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences.)
* All staff have received initial training in Cultural Competency.
* The school mission and vision statements focus on individual student success.
* Teachers and Administrative staff make regular positive communication to families.
* School Support Team (S-Team) process is utilized to support students who are struggling either academically or behaviorally.
* Behavioral Support Teams are assigned to each classroom to support classroom staff in the implementation of behavioral support plans for individual students.
* PIT (Professional Intervention Team) meets regularly to review students enrolled in the Middle School Alternative Program and to proactively provide support for students struggling with attending school and/or controlling their behavior.
* De-Brief Meetings are held twice monthly to review students who have had a high number of isolations or restraints so that necessary revisions can be made to individual behavior plans.
* The “Dale” Dollar Incentive Program is utilized school-wide and has been redesigned to be more in alignment with PBIS.
* School Counselor provides instruction once per week for each class in the Middle School Alternative Program.
* Middle School Alternative Educational Assistants provide a weekly lesson for students which address relationship building skills and other social skills.
* End of the Year Student Awards Ceremony has become a tradition. Trophies and certificates are given to students in both programs. All teachers are required to give awards for both academics and behavior.
* Students and teachers participate in “Morning Circles” each morning to aid in building a positive classroom culture.
* Middle School Alternative students participate in weekly Service Learning opportunities to develop empathy for others and a sense of social responsibility.

***Standard 4: Speaking Up for Every Child***

* School Support Team (S-Team) process is utilized to support students who are struggling either academically or behaviorally.
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* School mission statement focuses on each individual student’s success.

***Standard 5: Sharing Power***

* Ridgedale School Community PTA was organized in Fall 2019 to provide parents and staff an additional opportunity for meaningful involvement.
* If parents are unable to attend IEP meetings, the school team will complete a home visit to obtain the parent’s involvement.
* The Administrative Support Team, which is made up of Principal, SPED Facilitator, Campus Manager, Counselor and Restorative Interventionist, meet regularly to discuss and plan for school wide events and issues.
* The Leadership Team, which is made up of the Admin Team plus a teacher from Middle School Alternative and a teacher from the Special Day Program, meet regularly to discuss and plan for school wide programming.
* Due to the number of Educational Assistants on the Ridgedale staff, an EA Leadership Team has been created to provide a voice for those staff members.

***Standard 6: Collaborating with Community***

* Ridgedale Baptist Church continues to be an active partner with our school. Church youth participate as peer mentors during special events, such as Back to School Festival, Winter Celebration and Spring Fling. The church also provides school supplies and holiday food baskets for those family needing these items. Church youth come once a week during the winter months to sanitize desks, doorknobs and other items and to leave “positive notes” for staff. Due to COVID-19, the amount of in-person support provided by Ridgedale Baptist Church will be greatly limited during the 20-21 School Year.
* The Farragut Rotary Club has selected Ridgedale as of their agencies to support throughout the year. The club assists us providing school supplies for students, incentives for our Positive Behavior Support initiatives, buys School Coupon Books to support our fundraising efforts, provides volunteers for our Back to School Festival, Fall Festival, Santa’s Workshop and provides items for Teacher Appreciation Week. Due to COVID-19, the amount of in-person support provided by Farragut Rotary Club will be greatly limited during the 20-21 School Year.
* Callahan Baptist Church has become a partner and provided school supplies, backpacks for students and staff appreciation items.
* Second Harvest provides food backpacks for approximately 30 students per week.
* We partner with various community mental health agencies to allow visits as necessary with our students during the school day and include these agency representatives in student support meetings and IEP meetings.
* JoAnn’s Fabrics provides donations which support our PBIS program and also provides some classroom supplies.
* Knoxville Dream Center provides donations of school supplies and weekly staff motivational messages.