

Roscommon High School Parental Involvement

Describe the strategies intended to increase parental involvement.

Parents are invited to be active participants in all aspects of the school-wide plan. They receive information through paper mailings, the school website, and the building's listserv. Further, our Parent Advisory Committee is a viable component of the School Improvement Team through which parents regularly discuss components of the schoolwide plan. Discussion topics include annual review of the comprehensive needs assessment, development of academic goals, planning and reviewing school activities, and evaluation of the effectiveness of parental involvement in regards to the schoolwide plan. Parents have input on the plan through the Parent Advisory Committee, administrators, staff, and various parent surveys administered throughout the school year. Additionally, parents are invited to attend School Improvement meetings for open comment regarding strategies and their effectiveness.

To facilitate more effective communication with parents, the staff has had professional development training by Chick Morman. Additionally, we have noted positive impacts as a result of Dr. Paul Slocum's presentation of Ruby Payne's research from A Framework for Understanding Poverty. Teachers, student services personnel, principals, and other staff were part of these trainings. RHS is committed to linking arms with parents as we recognize the value and utility of their contributions. We continue to look for effective ways to communicate with and work with parents as equal partners as we implement and coordinate parent programs that build ties between parents and the school.

Describe parental involvement in the following requirements:

Program Design:

The staff at Roscommon High School believes that schools clearly work best when parents are involved in their children's education. Based on Joyce L. Epstein's research, which shows that parental involvement is a critical component of the learning process, Roscommon High School strives to involve parents in every aspect of their child's education.

- * Roscommon High School parents are involved in the design, implementation, and evaluation of the schoolwide plan.
- * Parents are invited to attend the annual Title I meeting held at the beginning of each school year. This meeting informs parents of the Title I program and services offered by Roscommon High School.
- * Roscommon High School has a Parent Advisory Committee that meets in each trimester with the School Improvement Team to discuss components of the schoolwide plan. Discussion topics include annual review of the comprehensive needs assessment, development of academic goals, plan and review school activities, and evaluate effectiveness of parental involvement in regards to the schoolwide plan. Parents have input on the plan through the Parent Advisory Committee, administrators, staff, and various parent surveys administered throughout the school year.

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Program Implementation:

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The Parent Advisory Committee in conjunction with the Roscommon High School's School Improvement Team will annually evaluate the Parental Involvement Plan. The purpose of this evaluation is to identify barriers to greater participation and devise strategies to increase parental involvement.

Program Evaluation:

Roscommon High School will gauge the effectiveness of schoolwide events by offering parents the opportunity to provide feedback on an evaluation form regarding parent/student activities. This information will be used by the Parent Advisory Committee and the School Improvement Team to determine if certain activities should continue or be modified to improve parental involvement.

Describe how the school provides individual student academic assessments results, including the interpretation of those results, in a language the parents can understand.

Parents are informed of their students' academic assessments through the use of progress reports (six week mark of each trimester), report cards (conclusion of each trimester), and an online grade and assignment reporting system (Skyward). Through our automated telephone system, we communicate with parents daily regarding attendance. Each trimester we offer parents the opportunity to talk with their students' teachers, counselors, and administrators at parent teacher conferences. At conferences, parents also have the opportunity to attend sessions to assist in interpreting standardized testing results for their students (NWEA, MME, PLAN, EXPLORE). During Parent-Teacher Conferences, informational meetings will be held to provide assistance to parents in understanding such topics as the State's academic standards, State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their child.

Describe the process to develop the school-parent compact.

Roscommon High School has a Parental Involvement Mission Statement and a Parent/Student/Teacher Compact that addresses the true partnership for learning that exists between home and school. This compact was developed using survey data obtained from parents, students, and teachers. In the spring, representatives from each stakeholder group will review their portion of the compact and Roscommon High School Schoolwide Title Plan Page 22

make suggested revisions. This compact is used annually at parent/teacher conferences to focus on the responsibilities of each stakeholder in order to improve student achievement and address schoolwide goals.

Provide an assurance statement that the school-parent compact is discussed at least annually during elementary level parent-teacher conferences.

In the spring, representatives from each stakeholder group will review their portion of the compact and Roscommon High School Schoolwide Title Plan and make suggested revisions. This compact is used annually at parent/teacher conferences to focus on the responsibilities of each stakeholder in order to improve student achievement and address schoolwide goals.