

Riverton Elementary School Parent Partnership Policy



Riverton Elementary School strives to partner with our parents and families to shape the future of our community by inspiring and supporting today's learners. We understand that students, families and educators share a unique bond and that by working together we are better able to support and encourage our children for success in school and beyond. The purpose of this policy is to provide valuable information to you about how we strive to engage our families and what opportunities exist for you to join our school community. We encourage you to become as involved with our school as your time permits. We welcome and value your thoughts and insights. Your contributions are critical to the success of our children.

For the purpose of this policy, "parent" includes guardians and other family members involved in supervising the student's schooling; and parent involvement is the "participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities."

As a Title I school, Riverton Elementary School is required to assess and monitor the performance of all learners to improve student performance, to assure that teachers are highly qualified and to keep parents and families informed on school performance. Riverton conducts classroom level assessments on student academic growth and participates in annual District and State assessments. It is the Portland Public School district policy to only hire highly qualified teachers. This information is updated annually and can be requested from the district Human Resources Department.

One of our school-wide goals is to design partnership initiatives that build capacity among families and schools while supporting student learning. As the school year begins, we have many ways for you to partner with our school community:

- **Back to School BBQ and Open House** - a school-wide celebration to

begin the school year.

- **Grade level Curriculum Night** - this is an opportunity to visit your child's classroom and learn about the instructional and social curriculum at your child's grade level.
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences** - each November and March, parents meet with classroom teachers to discuss the progress your child is making in school. You also will have an opportunity to discuss any questions or concerns you may have and learn about how to support your child at home.
- **Riverton Parent Events** - our goal is to host at least two family nights where families can join us to learn about Literacy, Math, Technology, Science and/or other academic and parenting topics. These events are designed to help you understand the curriculum being used in classrooms and to discuss ways to support and encourage learning.
- **Multicultural Potluck** - every spring our school hosts a dinner for our school community to share and enjoy the many food traditions important to our diverse community.
- **Volunteering** - Riverton Elementary provides many opportunities for parents to become involved with their child's education. Family members can volunteer as tutors, classroom helpers, library helpers and field trip chaperones. Volunteering at Riverton can be a good fit your schedule, can be in an area of interest to you and can be mutually beneficial for both you and your child. All volunteers must complete an online [volunteer application](#) and we do perform a background check, per district policy, for all school volunteers. All we ask is that you sign in and out in the Main Office and wear your nametag while you are volunteering in the school.
- **PTO** - Riverton Elementary has a very active and engaged parent/teacher organization. To find out more, please look for PTO meeting and event notices on our website or leave a note in the PTO mailbox at school. You can also sign up to our email list so you can stay informed throughout the year.
- **School Website and Communication** - Our school has a school [website](#) that includes contact information for all staff members. You may also contact us at 207-874-8210 from 7:45a.m. - 3:30p.m. Riverton is committed to communicating with all families and has access to interpreters and translators as needed to assure clear and consistent communication.
- **Classroom Communication** - Many of our classroom teachers send home class newsletters, have classroom blogs or communicate through sites like Class Dojo or See Saw. Your child's teacher will inform you of their individualized form of communication at the Open House or during Curriculum Night.
- **Family Handbook** - for further details about Riverton Elementary, please see our [Family Handbook](#) or call the office for a copy.

We ask for your assistance in providing updated contact information for you and your family each year so that we are able to communicate with each child's family. A Census Verification Report will be sent home in the first week of school packet. Please update the information and return it to school the following day. Any information you think may be important to us (medication, allergies, and/or pertinent custody) should be noted on the form. If any information changes during the school year, please notify the office immediately so that we are able to update your information.

Parents will be given the opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of our Parent Partnership Policy through a Title I Parent Meeting and a survey conducted by the District. The information gathered will be used to evaluate and design new strategies for more effective programs and policies.

We look forward to a year of growth for each of our students and eagerly join with you in preparing your child for their future. We are partners!