



Scranton School District

Robert Morris # 27
1824 Boulevard Avenue
Scranton, PA 18509
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2019-2020

Parent and Family Engagement Policy for Robert Morris Elementary

At Robert Morris Elementary, we believe that there is nothing more important than the School-Home Connection. Every October, an annual meeting is held between parents, the school principal, and Title I teachers to develop the School Parent Compact, revise the school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and for parents to give their input on how the school can assist them in helping their child succeed in school. All parents of children in our Title I Programs are invited to attend this meeting. While this formal planning meeting is held once annually, parents in our Title I programs are encouraged to reach out to us throughout the year with their changing needs and concerns regarding their children's academic progress and goals. Additional meetings/parent workshops (detailed below) will be held at various times throughout the school year to accommodate our working families who would like to contribute to our program.

During our Back To School Night event, which is held each year in September, parents have the opportunity to visit our school and meet with their child's teacher. While welcoming the parents to the school, the building principal gives a brief overview of the Title I programs that our school has to offer (Preschool, Title I Reading, and Title I Math After-School Tutoring) Parents then have the opportunity to visit each individual classroom, where teachers discuss and give an explanation of the curriculum used at their grade level, curriculum resources that are available to parents, and the various academic assessments that will be used to measure student progress throughout the school year. While these topics are discussed as a general overview at the beginning of the school year, they are addressed on a more individualized basis during Parent/Teacher Conferences at the end of the first marking period. During this time, teachers and parents have the opportunity to discuss individual plans for helping each child succeed in meeting his/her goals, and strategies for parents to use when working with their child at home.

Additionally, classroom teachers will provide parents with quarterly reports on their child's progress across content areas. We believe in maintaining a constant and consistent open line of communication with our families with regard to their child's academic needs and progress. The building principal, as well as teachers, utilize phone calls, e-mails, face-to-face meetings, as well as the use of the Remind App to keep the lines of communication open and reciprocal throughout the year.

For families that are looking for additional ways to help their children meet their academic goals, parent meetings, family events, and workshops will be held at various times throughout the school year. Those who may not have the availability to attend these meetings will have a monthly Home & School Connection Newsletter made available to provide them with additional strategies for student success. Parents can request this newsletter from their child's classroom teacher or pick up a copy in the Main Office.

In the fall, parents of children in our preschool program will be invited to join their child for a zoo-themed literacy day. Parents will be given resources to use with their child to increase literacy skills such as letter recognition, letter sounds, and rhyming. To coincide with this literacy event, families will also enjoy an educational presentation of exotic zoo animals from Animal Adventure Park. Throughout this event, parents and children will learn many important facts about animal habitats and animal adaptations and will be able to pet or hold many of the animals.

In February, students who qualify for Title I Reading Services will be invited, along with their parents, to participate in "Fun With Words" with Mrs. Pam Krupski, our Title I Reading Specialist. During this event, Mrs. Krupski will display and demonstrate strategies and games for practicing sight words at home. Parents will also receive a hand-out detailing the games so that they can recreate them at home while practicing words with their child.

Throughout the winter months, gently used books will be collected for the students at Robert Morris. Books will be sorted by grade level and distributed to students at a Free Book Event in the spring. All students and parents will be invited to attend the Free Book Event, where parents will learn additional strategies for encouraging independent reading at home. Children will then have the opportunity to choose books to take home and enjoy. This Free Book Event will be held immediately following dismissal in the afternoon for the convenience of parents who will be at school picking up their children. Any books remaining after the Free Book Event will be distributed to students throughout the building who were unable to attend.

We have high standards for student success at Robert Morris Elementary and we believe that a strong School-Home Connection is a vital part of any successful academic program. We look forward to communicating with our students, parents, and families in an effort to provide them with the most valuable resources to help each individual child meet his/her academic goals. We look forward to planning and incorporating a variety of workshops and special events throughout the academic year and we are always open to new suggestions that will help serve the needs of our students and families.

