

Wentworth Elementary School

**Student & title I handbook
2023-2024**

News from the Eagle's Nest



8806 NC 87
Reidsville, NC 27320
336.634.3250



Wentworth Elementary School
8806 NC Highway 87
Reidsville, NC 27320
Wentworthelementary.org

Jennifer Hardin, Ed.D.
Principal
336.634.3250
jhardin@rock.k12.nc.us

August 28, 2023

I am so delighted to extend a heartfelt welcome to you and your children as we begin an exciting new academic school year at Wentworth Elementary. As the proud principal of this wonderful school, I am eager to work alongside you to ensure a positive and enriching learning experience for all of our students.

At Wentworth, we believe that education is a collaborative effort that involves the school, parents, and the community. Your involvement in your child's education is paramount, and we encourage open communication and active participation through the school year.

Our dedicated team of educators is committed to providing a nurturing and supportive environment where each child can flourish academically, socially, and emotionally. We strive to instill a love for learning, critical thinking, and creativity, empowering our students to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

Throughout the year, we will focus on fostering a sense of belonging and inclusivity within our school community. We respect and celebrate the diverse backgrounds, talents, and abilities of all of our students, ensuring they feel valued and appreciated.

Our curriculum is designed to meet the individual needs of every child, encouraging personal growth and development. As we aim for academic excellence, we also emphasize character education, promoting qualities such as respect, kindness, integrity, and perseverance.

To keep you informed and engaged, we will organize student led conferences, informational sessions, and various school events. Additionally, we encourage you to stay connected through our school website, class dojo, newsletters, and social media platforms.

If you ever have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Our doors are always open, and we welcome your feedback as it helps us continually improve and refine our educational practices.

As we embark on this new journey together, let us remember that our shared commitment to our children's success will undoubtedly shape a bright and promising future for them. Let us work in unison to cultivate a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment that will nurture their growth and potential.

Thank you for entrusting us with the privilege of educating your children. We eagerly anticipate an exceptional year filled with accomplishments, cherished memories, and meaningful partnerships.

Once again, welcome to Wentworth! Together, we will make a positive difference in the lives of our students. Enjoy the start of the new year and WELCOME BACK EAGLES!

Your Proud Principal,
Jennifer M. Hardin, Ed.D.



Wentworth Elementary School Title I Handbook



Rockingham County Schools Vision 2020

Rockingham County Schools will empower each child to be a life-long learner, equipped to contribute in a changing, complex society.

Rockingham County Schools Mission

Through effective relationships with family and community partners, Rockingham County Schools will provide a safe, dynamic, nurturing, and innovative learning environment in which each child has the opportunity to reach his/her highest potential.

Rockingham County Schools Belief Statements

In Rockingham County Schools:

- **We believe in our children.** In Rockingham County Schools, we model and teach responsibility, healthy behaviors, integrity and acceptance, while embracing diversity, to develop successful individuals.
- **We believe in communication.** In Rockingham County Schools, we promote open and honest communication in order to build trust.
- **We believe in collaboration.** In Rockingham County Schools, we value partnerships between teachers, students, staff, parents and our community.
- **We believe in leadership.** In Rockingham County Schools, we provide opportunities for all involved to grow as leaders.
- **We believe in innovation.** In Rockingham County Schools, we provide unique opportunities and individualized education in order to remove barriers and problem-solve, helping each student reach his/her potential.
- **We believe in a safe environment.** In Rockingham County Schools, our schools and related facilities will be safe and well-maintained in order to support our students.

Link to Title I Policy: <https://boardpolicyonline.com/?b=rock&s=180210>

News from the Eagle's Nest is a supplemental information guide to the Rockingham County Schools (RCS) Student Handbook and to the information found on the RCS website: www.rock.k12.nc.us under the parent and student links.

Information found here is in addition to the RCS Student Handbook and may also be found on the Wentworth Elementary School (WES) website: wentworthelementary.org

Like & follow us on Facebook: Wentworth Elementary School and Wentworth Elementary Media Center

Like us on Instagram: wentworthelementary

Use the hashtag #wwsoars when you tweet with us on twitter

Follow your principal on twitter @JenniferMHardin

NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION <http://www.ncpublicschools.org>

WENTWORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL	Jennifer Hardin
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	Dennis Paschal
SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER	Megan McCollum
SECRETARY/DATA MANAGER	Karin Allen
SCHOOL COUNSELOR	Melanie Triche
INSTRUCTIONAL COACH	Meredith Hawkins
MEDIA SPECIALIST	Jenella Johnson
SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST	Michele Knight
SCHOOL NURSE	Andi Paul
SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER	Tenna Wyatt
SCHOOL BEHAVIOR SPECIALIST	Marianna Fittante
SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE DIRECTOR	Jason Haney



WENTWORTH
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



PARENT TEACHER
ASSOCIATION



WHAT IS THE PTA?

A PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION/ORGANIZATION, PARENT-TEACHER-FRIEND ASSOCIATION, OR PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT ASSOCIATION IS A FORMAL ORGANIZATION COMPOSED OF PARENTS, TEACHERS AND STAFF THAT IS INTENDED TO FACILITATE PARENTAL PARTICIPATION IN A SCHOOL.

HERE AT WENTWORTH ELEMENTARY WE HAVE FOUR ELECTED OFFICERS

CASEY ELLSWORTH - PRESIDENT
REGAN STANLEY - VICE PRESIDENT
ASHLEY CRADDOCK - SECRETARY
DENISE HANCOCK - TREASURER

WE ENCOURAGE ALL PARENTS TO JOIN THE PTA AND HELP WITH THE FUTURE OF YOUR CHILDREN AND BECOME INVOLVED IN FUNDRAISING AND SPECIAL EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR FOR OUR STUDENTS AND THE STAFF!

SCAN QR CODE
FOR EASY ACCESS
TO JOIN TODAY!



**FOLLOW WENTWORTH
ELEMENTARY PTA ON
FACEBOOK OR MESSAGE
THERE TO JOIN!**

WE NEED YOU!!! WE'RE BETTER TOGETHER!



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

SCHOOL OFFICES

336.634.3250, Fax # 342.9380

RCS WEATHER LINE

336.623.1385

RCS PARENT RESOURCE CENTERS

336.623.8098 (Eden)

336.342.8588 (Reidsville)

DAILY SCHEDULE

7 am – 7:30am

Doors Open for Student Morning Arrival

7:30am

Tardy Bell Rings and Instruction Begins

7:30 am – 2:30 pm

Student School Day

2:30pm

Afternoon Dismissal Begins

7 am – 4:15 pm

Front Office Hours





SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

The purpose of Wentworth Elementary School is to provide the best learning environment possible for students. We, the faculty, take full responsibility for providing a safe and comfortable environment, adequate materials, and a competent well-qualified staff.

Students are responsible for putting forth their best effort in completing all schoolwork. Students also will conduct themselves in a manner respectful to the rights of the entire school community.

Parent involvement and support are essential in the educational process. It is the joint responsibility of parents and teachers to be aware of the students' needs and growth.



Wentworth School, in partnership with home and community, will provide a safe, nurturing environment in which high quality learning opportunities are provided in order that all students achieve their individual potential and are prepared to become responsible and productive citizens of the 21st century.



Laying the foundation for 21st century learning through academics and technology

Rockingham County Schools Special Resources Guide for Parents

English as a Second Language (ESL)

What: Additional instruction for students learning English as their second language.

Who Qualifies: Students who have any primary language other than English used in their homes are assessed to see if they meet the state requirements to receive these services.

Contact: Val Pyrtle at 445.1997 or vpyrle@rock.k12.nc.us

Exceptional Children's Services

What: Special instruction for students having disabilities that make learning or other activities difficult.

Who Qualifies: Students who meet the North Carolina criteria for Exceptional Children's Services.

Contact: Dr. Pam Watkins, Director of Exceptional Children at 627.2600 or pwatkins@rock.k12.nc.us

Homeless Assistance

What: Help for students who are without a permanent home.

Who Qualifies: Office personnel at each school assist families in accessing services.

Contact: Tenna Wyatt, School Social Worker @ 634.3250 or Nancy Towler @ 627.2600

Migrant Education

What: Tutorial services for students, parent workshops, translation and transportation, food/clothing, support services, and summer tutoring.

Where: 212 Lawsonville Avenue, Reidsville (Lawsonville Learning Center)

Who Qualifies: Children ages 3-21 whose families have moved within the last three years to seek work in agriculture or seasonal work.

Contact: Roman Gunn @ 349.5476 or rgunn@rock.k12.nc.us

Parent Resource Centers

What: Free resource materials for families to use in their homes to increase student learning.

Where: 1130 Center Church Road, Eden (Restored Douglass Elementary School) and 212 Lawsonville Avenue, Reidsville (Lawsonville Learning Center)

Who Qualifies: All families in Rockingham County, daycare providers, Head Start, and anyone helping a child learn.

Contact: Catherine Massengale at 342.8588 or online at www.rock.k12.nc.us/prc

Rockingham County Schools
511 Harrington Highway
Eden, NC 27288
336-627-2600

Notice of Non-discrimination

The Rockingham County School system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, homelessness or otherwise in its educational programs and activities and in employment. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

ADA Coordinator

Dr. Pam Watkins, Director
of Exceptional Children's Program
(336) 627-2715
pwatkins@rock.k12.nc.us

Age Discrimination
Other Non-discrimination Laws

Mr. James D. Richardson, Director
of Human Resources Department
(336) 627-2679
jdrichardson@rock.k12.nc.us

Title IX and Boy Scouts

Dr. Cindy Corcoran, Assistant Superintendent
of Instructional Support Services
(336) 627-2688
ccorcoran@rock.k12.nc.us

Section 504

Ms. Amy Wilson, EC Program Specialist,
MTSS/ PBIS, 504 and NCSIP Coordinator
(336) 627-2662
awilson2@rock.k12.nc.us

Wentworth Elementary School Policies, Rules and Procedures

All information is addressed in alphabetical order. All information will supplement RCS Policies and the RCS Student Handbook.

ATTENDANCE

It is very important for students to be in school every day when they are well. Just as adults have the responsibility of attending work or other obligations, students are responsible for attending school. Each day, students should be in class and ready to learn from 7:30 to 2:30. Excessive absences and/or tardies can be detrimental to student progress requiring them to be retained in the current grade level. Wentworth follows RCS guidelines for absences. More information on those procedures and regulations can be found in the RCS Student Handbook.

Absences: When a student is sick or needs to be absent for another reason, a note is required upon his/her return. The student should turn the note into their teacher and the teacher will ensure that the appropriate office staff member receives the note to enter the correct attendance code.

Tardies: When a student arrives late to school (after 7:30), a parent must escort them to the door to be checked-in.

Early Dismissals/Check-outs: When a student needs to leave school before 2:30, an adult must check the student out. The adult must be specified on the student information sheet as having rights to pick up the student. **Per RCS School Board Policy 5020, all persons wishing to pick up a student must present a valid ID.** The adult checking the student out should come to the door and request the student to check out. For the safety of the students, no student may be checked out after 2:15.

In addition to the RCS guidelines for absences, parents are required to get prior permission at least one week in advance from the principal in order for any absences due to non-school sponsored trips to be excused. With proper documentation that links students' experiences on the trip with the curriculum and all assignments being completed, up to three days may be excused per year.

BAD WEATHER POLICY

Occasionally due to snow, sleet, or other unsafe weather conditions, the operation of school may have to be changed. A decision to delay the opening of school or close school due to inclement weather will affect all schools throughout the Rockingham County School System and is made by the Superintendent. When inclement weather is forecasted, listen to one of the area TV stations late in the evening and early in the morning and be sure to check social media for an announcement concerning schools being closed or delayed. You will also receive an automated message indicating any changes in the normal schedule. The decision to close or operate on a two-hour delay will be made by 6 AM if at all possible. The announcement will designate whether schools are closed or on a two-hour delay. If a two-hour delay is announced, schools may still close if conditions do not improve before buses are scheduled to depart. If bad weather begins after school is in session, early dismissal may be called to permit students to get home before the roads become too dangerous.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Rockingham County Schools provides an affordable option for before and after school care. Mr. Jason Haney is the Director of the Wentworth program. Before school care begins at 6:30am and after school care until 6:00pm for students in grades K-5. There is a charge and students must register to attend. For more information, please contact Mr. Haney at 336.342.8562.

BOOKBAGS

Book bags with wheels are NOT permitted at Wentworth. Neither classrooms nor buses have ample space for storing these types of bags, and students are subject to accidents and injuries when they are used in crowded hallways. Thank you for planning accordingly.

BUSES (STUDENT CONDUCT AND LOADING/UNLOADING PROCEDURES)

School bus transportation service is a privilege, not a right. One of the most hazardous parts of school transportation is the failure of students to properly conduct themselves while riding and getting on and off school buses. The failure of students to cooperate jeopardizes the lives of others. Many school bus accident reports indicate that misbehavior of pupil passengers riding the bus distracted the bus driver's attention, thereby causing an accident.

Riding the bus is a privilege and in order to maintain that privilege students are expected to be responsible for their behavior. Buses unload and load in the bus parking lot. RCS policy requires that students are only allowed to ride the bus to which they are permanently assigned and be picked up/dropped off at their designated stop. While riding a school bus or other school vehicle, students shall observe the directives of the driver. The following conduct is specifically prohibited and may result in temporary or permanent suspension from school and/or bus transportation services to and/or from school.

- Delaying the bus schedule
- Fighting, smoking, using profanity, or refusing to obey the driver's instructions
- Tampering with or willfully damaging the school vehicle
- Possession or use of unauthorized drugs or intoxicating beverages on a school vehicles as outlined in Board Policy
- Distracting the driver's attention by participating in disruptive behavior while the vehicle is in operation.
- Failing to observe established safety rules and regulations
- Throwing objects on or from the bus
- Willfully trespassing upon a school bus
- Violating any other rule of the Code of Student Conduct while on the school bus or other school vehicles.

Bus misbehavior will result in consequences laid out in the RCS Discipline Regulation Reference Guide.



Bus Rules

1. Sit in assigned seat, on your bottom, facing forward, out of the aisle
2. Keep hands, feet, and objects to self
3. Overhead lights or other designated sign = SILENT BUS
4. All belongings remain in book bags
5. No food, drink, or toys
6. Use soft voices to talk with your seating partner
7. Obey the driver at all times



CHILD NUTRITION SERVICES

Rockingham County Schools' School Nutrition Program is responsible for providing nutritious meals and snacks for all students enrolled in our schools across the district. We value the opportunity to participate in your student's education and nutritional experience and strive to provide balanced, nutritious meals while promoting positive food habits. In Rockingham County, our School Nutrition Program adheres to federal and state statutes and guidelines to ensure that we are in compliance with all requirements to continue to receive funding. All meals served meet nutritional guidelines set forth by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and support our students' healthy growth and development.

Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, all students in Rockingham County will receive breakfast and lunch at no cost through our participation in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). The Community Eligibility Provision is a program that allows school districts that meet certain criteria to offer meals to students at no cost. By participating in this federally funded program, families of Rockingham County students will not have to submit free and/or reduced lunch applications to receive meals at reduced or no cost.

Charges

Breakfast and lunch are provided to all students at no cost. Smart snack options, i.e., a la carte items, are available for purchase by students and adults at the point of sale. Students and adults are not permitted to charge a la carte items.

Linq Payments

LINQ Payments is a mobile-friendly website that allows a parent or guardian to manage his/her student's meal account from a mobile device. Parents and guardians can visit k12paymentcenter.com to add money to and track balances on their students' meal accounts. These accounts can be used for a la carte purchases, such as desserts, potato chips, smart snacks, and drinks that are available on the serving line.

Dietary Orders

In accordance with USDA's regulations for "substitutions or diet modifications in school meals for children whose disabilities restrict their diet, all diet orders must reflect the current dietary needs of the child." It is the responsibility of our School Nutrition Program to make the necessary substitutions as listed by a licensed physician on the medical statement form.

Money can be added to your child's account online at k12paymentcenter.com or anytime in the school cafeteria.

NOTE: Students may eat breakfast beginning at 7am in their classrooms. Breakfast will end @ 7:30am.

CAR RIDERS (UNLOADING AND LOADING PROCEDURES)

Together, we are responsible for the safe arrival and departure of over 500 students. It is the parent's responsibility to communicate the information below to ANY person providing transportation for the child.

Morning and afternoon: Students may arrive beginning @ 7am and dismissal will begin @ 2:30pm. Staff members and safety patrol will be on duty to supervise loading and unloading. All cars in the drop off/pick up lane should pull as far forward as possible, without blocking the crosswalk, before letting students out or picking up students. Please follow the directions of any staff member who is charged with directing traffic. Children should not exit their vehicles until a staff member is present in the cross walk. This is a safety and supervision issue that we thank you in advance for aligning with. All parents should plan to utilize the car rider line for morning drop-off each morning. Due to safety concerns, parents should not park and walk their child to the building. **Please do NOT PARK IN THE PICK-UP/DROP OFF LANE during the following times: 7 – 7:30am OR 2:20 – 3:00pm.**

Morning: Students may arrive *beginning @ 7am* unless you have previously made arrangements with the on-site School Age Child Care. Please have your child's things ready (lunch money, books, water bottles, etc.) so that unloading can be done safely and quickly without holding up traffic. Students should exit the vehicle on the passenger/ sidewalk side of the vehicle. All cars coming to campus need to go through the car rider line - please do not park and plan to walk your child in as this presents multiple safety concerns. We appreciate each of you aligning with our safety procedures.

Staff will head outside for morning arrival supervision at exactly 7am. Please do not release children from your cars until a staff member is in the crosswalk. Students should be ready to immediately exit their vehicle when they pull up to the sidewalk. We encourage you that when you pull onto campus, go ahead and get bookbags, lunch boxes, and anything else together so that your child can quickly exit the vehicle. This is needed because of the high volume of traffic on our campus and our need to get everyone through the line as quickly as possible.

Upon arrival, students are to go directly to their classroom. Children are not allowed down the halls before 7am. All students should arrive and be in class no later than 7:30am. An adult must sign-in any student in the front office who arrives after this time.

Wentworth Elementary strives to be an inviting place. We also want to ensure that our environment is safe, structured, and focused on learning. Parents, you are invited to walk your child to their classroom on the 1st day of school, Monday, August 28th. Kindergarten parents ONLY may continue to walk their child inside the building to their classroom the remainder of the first week of school due to our staggered entry and our very special Kindergarten Parent Meeting Friday morning, September 1st.

Beginning on our second day of school, Tuesday, August 29th, all parents (1st – 5th grades) are asked to use the car rider drop-off lane only.

Beginning on Tuesday, September 5th, ALL parents (Kindergarten – 5th grades) are asked to use the car rider drop-off lane only. Students will need to begin to develop an understanding of the morning routine and we want to encourage them to be independent in getting their school day started. We will have multiple staff members present to help students get to their classrooms safely each morning.

Afternoon: Parents are asked to wait in their vehicles in the car rider line. All students should be picked up through the car rider line to maintain an orderly dismissal and to allow teachers to safely account for who has picked up the child. When using the pickup lane, students will be loaded on the sidewalk side/ passenger side of the vehicle only. Please plan accordingly.

All cars are asked to go through the car rider line, and no one should park and walk up to our student groups. When this happens, it is easy for visitors to just leave with their child and never make contact with the classroom teacher which presents a safety concern. Going through the car rider line provides the opportunity for staff to connect with you and ensure we are releasing our students to someone we know. When you arrive on campus, please be sure to line up along the car rider line. Traffic will be heavy the first few weeks of school and we thank you in advance for your patience with us as we get students in the right cars and patience with one another as new families learn our arrival and dismissal routines. As always, thank you for following the direction of staff outside.

CHILD CUSTODY

Wentworth School will utilize the following policy concerning child custody. Any questions concerning documents needs to be directed to our Data Manger, Mrs. Karin Allen, or the principal, Dr. Jennifer Hardin.

1. In case one parent asks that a child not be allowed to leave school with the other parent, **A custody paper, restraining order, or some other legal document still in effect must be in the child's folder at school.**
2. Legal opinion states that either parent has an equal right to the child unless one of the above-mentioned legal documents has been issued.
3. In the event that a parent says they have such a document or notarized copy at home, it becomes imperative that the document or notarized copy be brought in as soon as possible to be included in the child's records.
4. Custodial parents will provide the school with a list of non-custodial adults that may pick up their child in case of an emergency. The Student Emergency/Sign-Out/Pickup Information form must be completed and updated when any of this information changes.
5. All custody issues should be settled legally and away from school as to not distract from the learning environment.

CHORAL CONCERTS

Our Music Program, under the direction of Mrs. Susan Kunar, is excited to share dates for this year's upcoming choral concerts which will take place in our gym. Each grade level will have one concert to bring our community together in song and we hope you will make plans to join us. Please note the dates below:

- 4TH & 5TH Grade students – Tuesday, 12.12.23 @ 6:30pm
- 2ND & 3RD Grade students – Tuesday, 3.19.24 @ 6:30pm
- Kindergarten & 1st Grade students – Thursday, 5.16.24 @ 6:30pm

COMMUNICATION

Communication between staff, parents/guardians, and students is very important to us at Wentworth Elementary. We encourage open communication through all the avenues listed below to increase the success of all of our students. Teachers and staff are asked to follow up with correspondence within 24 hours, Monday-Friday. Correspondence sent after school hours or during weekends or holidays will be addressed once the staff member returns to work. Be sure to follow Wentworth Elementary on Facebook.

Email: Staff and students have email addresses issued by Rockingham County Schools. All email addresses end with @rock.k12.nc.us. Email is a great way to communicate; however, please use caution when sending private information as emails are public record.

Class Dojo: Class Dojo is a communication platform where parents, teachers, and students can communicate about learning. Class Dojo is used schoolwide at Wentworth. On the School Story you can see posts from administration and specialists. On the Class Story you can see information that is pertinent to the student's class. The platform also allows teachers, administrators and parents to communicate and message back and forth. Parents can connect with the class by getting a class code from the teacher. Once connected with the teacher- you are connected with the school! Download the App to any smartphone, tablet, or computer. Please be mindful that, while teachers respond to Dojo messages during the school day, their first priority is to lead instruction in the classroom. They may not have the ability to respond after school hours or on the weekends. They will, however, get back to you as soon as school is open again.

If there is a time sensitive question or concern, please make sure you call our office at 336.634.3250. Please do not use Dojo for emergency or time sensitive information.

Phone: All certified staff have phones and corresponding voice mail boxes. They check these during school hours. Please feel free to call the school to speak with any staff member. Teachers may not be available to answer during the instructional day.

Automated Telephone Messaging System: The district provides an automated telephone messaging service to keep parents informed. Each week you will receive a recorded message from Wentworth Elementary. Please keep your phone numbers updated in the office to receive information. Send any and all new contact information to your child's classroom teacher AND our school Data Manager to be changed in our school's database.

CRISIS/SCHOOL EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

It is essential that our records stay up to date in order to reach you in case of a school crisis or emergency. **Please notify your child's teacher AND our data manager in the office when any contact information changes.** In the event of a school crisis or emergency, an automated phone message will be sent to parents to communicate the procedure to be followed to access your child and/or more information. We ask that parents follow the directions carefully to maximize the safety of everyone involved.

DISCIPLINE CODE OF CONDUCT

Wentworth Elementary School students are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior in the classroom, hallways, gym, cafeteria, field trips, bus, and any other school related place or activity. Our students, staff, and parents are expected to treat everyone with respect and dignity when dealing with a discipline issue. Our students and staff will conform to the Rockingham County School Code of Conduct, Rockingham County Dress Code, and Wentworth Elementary School rules as established by the school administration and school staff.

DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION TO STUDENTS

Any non-school and/or non-curriculum related materials must have district office approval to be distributed on school grounds.

FIELD TRIPS

Each grade level will be allowed 2 curriculum-related field trips this year. They typically do one in the fall and one in the spring. Teachers will give advance notice for parents to prepare for these trips. Any parent/guardian wishing to go on a field trip must complete a background check. No other grade-level or non-school age children (including siblings) are permitted on the trips.

Each field trip needs parent chaperones in order to accompany students in their off-campus adventures to help ensure the safety of all. Many of our field trips cannot happen without the additional adult support. Rockingham County Schools Board Policy 3320 states that all chaperones and volunteers accompanying student on school trips must meet the standards established by policy 5015, School Volunteers.

Rockingham County Schools Board Policy 5015 states that volunteers are individuals that contribute a service to RCS educational or extracurricular programs without compensation. Examples would include chaperones on field trips, volunteer tutors or other classroom support. Policy 5015 requires background inquiries and checks for any volunteers who have unsupervised contact with students. Classroom teachers will communicate ahead of each trip if parents will have unsupervised contact with students. We highly recommend that in advance of field trips being scheduled, that all parents complete the background check process.

All adults attending the 5th grade trip to Washington, DC will be required to complete the background check process through BIB (Background Investigation Bureau). This is completed online and is accessible through our district home page. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you need assistance completing this process.

Thank you in advance for the completion of this background check process at the link below.

<https://securevolunteer.com/ROCKINGHAM-COUNTY-SCHOOLS/home>

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising enables our students to benefit from "extras" which would otherwise be impossible to provide. "Extras" include: additional materials and supplies for students and teachers, extra curricular activities, equipment, facility upgrades and much more. Our 2 whole school fundraisers at Wentworth are sponsored by the school. We will kick off our year with a Fun Run in September and a Read-A-Thon in the spring.

HOMEWORK

Well chosen, clearly communicated homework can be an integral part of the instructional lprocess. Homework that reinforces, enriches, and enhances instruction encourages familils to become more involved with their child's education. It also helps students to work independently and to become more responsible for their own achievements. Homework is determined by each teacher and assigned to reinforce skills, encourage independent study, and to develop good study habits. Parents should check homework assignments in all grades to stay informed of their child's progress.

A checklist for helping your child with homework:

- Make sure your child has:
 - A quiet place to work with good light.
 - A regular time each day for doing homework.
 - Basic supplies such as paper, pencils, pens, markers and rulers.
- Questions to ask your child:
 - What's your assignment for today?
 - Do you understand the assignment?
 - When is the assignment due?
 - Do you need special resources such as a trip to the library or computer?
 - Do you need special supplies?
 - Have you started the assignment?
 - Is it a long-term assignment, such as a paper or project?
 - Can I help you study by going over the information with you?

- Did you turn the assignment in to the teacher?
- Other ways to help:
 - Look over your child's homework, but don't do it for them.
 - Meet the teacher early in the year and communicate about the homework policy.
 - Review the teacher's comments on homework that has been returned and discuss it with your child.
 - Contact the teacher if there is a problem and your child can't solve it.
 - Contact the teacher if you haven't seen homework in a period of three days. There is probably a reason.
 - Congratulate your child on a job well done.

When a child is absent, it is important that all work missed (daily and homework) be made up.

INSURANCE

We do our best to provide a safe environment for all students, staff, and visitors. However, accidents do happen. Student insurance is available upon request and is an inexpensive investment in case of an accident. Information on coverage during school hours or for 24-hour coverage will be explained in a brochure given to each student. This insurance is strongly recommended. It meets the field trip requirement for students to be insured as well.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

It is important that the school has up to date medical information about each student. Our School nurse, Nurse Andi, is on campus 2.5 days per week. When she is not here, we have trained staff to address students' basic medical needs (bandaids, taking temperatures, basic first aid) when necessary. We also have trained AED/CPR certified members on our staff.

ILLNESS AT SCHOOL: When a student becomes ill during the school day and cannot continue his/her day, every attempt will be made to contact the parent to take the child home. **Please make sure the teacher and the office have updated contact information where the parent/guardian can be reached in case of an emergency.** Students who are running a fever (>100.4) or vomiting will be sent home. We support the recommendation of the Health Department that a child be symptom-free for 24 hours, without fever reducing medicine, before returning to school. **All parents/adults must present a valid state-issued ID at the time of checkout.**

MEDICATION: If your child needs medication at school it may be administered with the proper documentation from the doctor. The nurse will review the paperwork and develop a plan for the student. It is a parent's responsibility to provide the school with a new medication form each year or if there is a change in medication and/or dosage during the school year. Please contact the school nurse or the front office to obtain this form. School staff cannot administer medication to children unless the proper form with a doctor's signature is on file.

MTSS

Wentworth Elementary uses MTSS as our framework for improvement and to meet the needs of each learner. By the NCDPI definition, MTSS is a multi-tiered framework which promotes school improvement through engaging, research-based academic and behavioral practices as well as Social Emotional Learning (SEL). MTSS employs a systems approach to using data-driven problem-solving to maximize growth for all students. With the framework, Wentworth is able to intervene and enrich students daily to maximize their learning.

With this framework, we find that whole group and small group instruction are beneficial for students. We find ways to meet the needs of students in small groups with the use of tutors, teachers, and support staff where possible.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Each parent is invited and expected to have at least two face-to-face conferences with the child's teacher during the first quarter & third quarter of the school year. If transportation is an issue, notify the teacher or principal and a home visit will be arranged. If you wish to talk with a staff member about your child, please arrange an appointment in order to eliminate

interruption of instruction. Teachers are available to schedule conferences during their planning time and from 2:30 – 3:00pm on days when teachers are not involved in meetings after school. We will also make arrangements to accommodate our parents' work schedules for conferences if needed.

PARTIES









Two special snacks per school year will take place in classrooms. These special snacks usually occur just before winter break and spring break. Special snacks will be scheduled to cause the least disruption to instructional time. Birthday parties are not permitted during the school day. However, you may contact your child's teacher and offer to provide a special snack on a designated day to be served after 1pm. The snack must consist of store-bought/packaged refreshments. Please do not send birthday cakes, ice cream, or balloons. Let your child's teacher know a few days in advance if you plan to send refreshments. You will need to provide the necessary napkins, plates, and cups as well.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Wentworth's Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is a key component to student success. The organization provides support for our school through fundraising and volunteering. Please be an active member of our PTA and participate in as many scheduled meetings and activities as you can. We encourage each parent to join our PTA. Please follow the Wentworth Elementary PTA on Facebook for updates!

Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS)

Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) is a research based, schoolwide student behavior program that focuses on expectations and positive behavior. Students will be taught the procedures and expectations throughout the building. Students will have the opportunity to celebrate positive behavior and re-learn behaviors when they do not follow expectations. The PBIS program ensures that we are consistent with rules and consequences. Our teachers will utilize Class Dojo to track behavior and participation. Class Dojo will also be used for communication and posting of class information. Class Dojo is a free app that parents can sign up for on their devices (phone, tablet, computer, etc.). Teachers will share the class information with parents at the beginning of the year.

Eagles SOAR	Cafeteria 	Hallways (Voice 1) 	Playground & Track 	Classrooms 	Bathrooms (Voice 1) 	Buses (Voice 0 or 1) 	Assemblies 	Before & After School Care 
S Show Kindness	- Use good manners - Use voice level 0 in the serving line, unless you are speaking to a staff member	- Keep your hands and feet to yourself	- Use polite words - Take turns - Include others in play	- Use polite language with adults and students - Have a positive attitude - Treat others as you want to be treated	- Wait your turn	- Begin and end your day with kind words to others	- Listen to what the speaker has to say	- Use polite language with adults and students - Have a positive attitude
O Observe Safety	- Seat to seat, back to back, feet to floor - Remain seated until your lunch time ends - Use your walking feet - Use voice level 1 or 2 while speaking to those sitting at your table.	- Walk on the right side of the hall in a single line facing forward	- Stay in assigned areas where an adult can see you - Use equipment properly	- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself - Use equipment and supplies properly	- Use your walking feet - Keep all water & trash where it belongs	- Seat to seat, back to back, feet to floor - Remain seated until the bus completely stops - Walk to and from bus	- Walk in a straight line to your seat - Stay seated throughout the assembly - Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself	- Stay with your group leader at all times - Use your walking feet when entering the cafeteria and remain in your seat until further instructions
A Always Respectful	- Respect personal space - Clean up after yourself	- Keep your hands off walls - Remember learning is happening in classrooms	- Enter and exit the building calmly and quietly at a level 0 - Be encouraging to self and others - Follow your teacher's directions	- Level 0 when others are talking - Be encouraging to self and others - Follow your teacher's directions	- Flush the toilet, wash your hands, and throw away trash - Protect privacy	- Follow driver's directions - Keep aisles clear	- Use a voice level 0 when the speaker is talking - Respond politely when prompted by the speaker	- Use equipment and supplies properly
R Responsible and Ready	- Stand 3 on each side - One time through the line & get everything you need	- Follow teacher directions - Go directly to your destination	- Return equipment to the building - Pick up all trash, water bottles and coats	- Keep your work and storage area clean - Stay on task	- Enter and exit quietly - Return to class as soon as you are finished	- Be on time at bus stop - Be ready for your stop by having your belongings ready	- Enter and leave with a voice level 0	- Clean up after yourself - Make good choices during work time

0 =	No Voice
1 =	Whisper
2 =	Table Talk
3 =	Strong Speaker
4 =	Outside

RECESS

Students will receive 30 minutes of daily physical activity each day. When at all possible, they will go outside unless the grounds are wet or muddy. Please see that your child is appropriately dressed (including footwear), especially during colder weather. It is advised that your child wear appropriate footwear when it is recess time; flips flops and heels are not recommended for recess. Students who are coming back to school from an illness may be excused from physical activity up to three days with a note from home. To be excused any longer will require a note from your child's doctor.

SAFETY DRILLS

Safety is a top priority at Wentworth Elementary. Our daily routines and procedures as well as safety drills are all part of keeping our students safe. The Wentworth building remains locked at all times during the day. No one should be in the building or on the playground without checking into the office first for a visitor's pass. Fire drills are held monthly. Tornado drills are held twice a year. We will also participate in regular lock down drills and we anticipate practicing these 4-6 times a year. Our students practice these drills with their teachers to know the proper safety rules in each case. You may wish to discuss these safety rules with your child. Our Crisis Intervention Team monitors these drills.

SCHOOL HOURS

Our instructional school hours are **7:30AM – 2:30PM**. Students may arrive as early as 7am and should report directly to their classrooms. Students who arrive **in the building after 7:30am are considered tardy and parents must sign in these students at the office.** Office staff will ensure they arrive to class safely. Students will not be permitted into class after 7:30 without a tardy slip from the office. Please refer to the Attendance Policy for more information.

STUDENT SIGN IN / SIGN OUT PROCEDURES

Students who are not able to arrive **to their class by 7:30** are to be signed in by a parent/guardian in the front office and must receive a tardy slip to be admitted to class. Any student who leaves before 2:30 must also be signed out by a parent/guardian. Students will **only be called to the office to leave after they have been signed out by a parent/guardian and photo ID has been verified.** School Board Policy 5020 states that ID must be produced for all individuals every time – **NO EXCEPTIONS.** In order to preserve instructional time, we do not allow "call ahead" dismissal from class for any reason. Electronic documentation will be kept regarding sign-in/sign-out.

TARDIES AND EARLY PICKUPS

Instruction begins promptly at 7:30am and students are expected to be in class at that time. Students are considered tardy if they arrive **in the building after 7:30 AM.** Although they cannot always be avoided, late arrivals and early pickups are disruptive to the learning environment and should be kept to a minimum. Also, perfect attendance recognition is for students who attend school each day from 7:30am – 2:30pm. Therefore, tardies and early pickups may jeopardize this status. Please refer back to the section on attendance for more information.

TITLE I

Information about the Title I program can be found at the end of this handbook. Title I events will be scheduled throughout the year. You will receive information about these events soon!

TOBACCO FREE CAMPUS

Wentworth Elementary values the health and welfare of all within our community. We believe that a healthy and safe environment is important when promoting the growth and well-being of all students. In accordance with local and state guidelines, Wentworth Elementary is a tobacco free zone. We ask all visitors to Wentworth Elementary to please extinguish and put away all tobacco related products upon entering our campus, including in the parking lot & in personal vehicles.

TOYS, CELL PHONES, AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Any item that distracts from the learning process is prohibited, including but not limited to; cell phones, I-pods, toys, etc. (unless being used for instructional purposes deemed appropriate by the teacher). Any item that distracts from learning will be confiscated and returned to parents. Continuously bringing items which cause distractions may result in a disciplinary consequence. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items that should not be brought on campus.

TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS

Please give any information for the day's transportation to your child & your child's teacher before the school day begins (i.e., being a bus rider, being a car rider, or staying in After School Care, etc.). **Written notification to the teacher is required if bus students are to be car riders that day.** Car riders or After School Students who need to ride a bus and do not have a bus assignment require at least a 48 hour notice and can only be made as a permanent change where the child will ride the bus at least two days a week. Students will only be given one morning and one afternoon bus assignment.

Although written notice is requested in advance, if an emergency arises during the day and you need to communicate a change in transportation, please contact the main office before 2:00 pm to allow enough time to get the message to the student and teacher.

VISITORS

Parents are welcome and encouraged to visit Wentworth, especially during lunch. By 7am each morning teachers are responsible for supervising students and providing instruction and will not be able to give parents their undivided attention. If a conference with a staff member is needed, an appointment with the staff member helps eliminate interruption of instruction and can be scheduled by contacting the teacher by phone, e-mail or a message on class dojo. Classroom visits should all be pre-arranged with the classroom teacher – thank you in advance for having these set up before you stop in. This helps to ensure instruction is not interrupted.

Students are not allowed to bring visitors (cousins, friends from out of town, etc.) to school. All visitors, including parents, are required to sign in at the front office and get a visitor's badge. After signing in, all visitors must display a visitor's badge at all times while in the buildings. All visitors, including parents, are required to sign out at the front office when they are leaving campus. Staff members will notify the principal if a visitor is in the building without displaying a visitor's badge.

Our school is now more secure for our children with locked doors to the cafeteria and front hallway. When you are on campus as a volunteer or visitor after you have signed in at the office, someone from the office will buzz you into the hall or cafeteria. Thank you for helping us to keep our children safe. We look forward to having volunteers helping our children every day and making sure your valuable time is not wasted by planning in advance for your arrival.

VOLUNTEERS

Wentworth could not fully function without volunteers and we welcome all volunteers onto our campus. Please contact your child's teacher at the beginning of the year to let them know ways you will be able to volunteer. Each time you volunteer please sign in at the office as a volunteer.

TITLE I ~ Wentworth is a Title I School!

The remainder of this handbook explains the Title I program. We look forward to having events this year to enhance the educational experience for our students and parents. With Title I we require our Teachers, Students, and Parents to sign a Compact outlining expectations. The Compact expectations are listed here:

As a Teacher of a successful Wentworth Eagle student, I understand my responsibilities are to:

- respect each student and their family.
- provide instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment.
- support the Social and Emotional learning and needs of each child.
- provide opportunities for parents to participate in lessons and observe classroom activities.
- communicate on a consistent basis.
- report feedback and progress in a timely manner.
- be available to parents by letter, phone (336.634.3250), email, and Class Dojo.
- personalize and differentiate learning to meet student needs.

As a successful Wentworth Eagle student, I understand my responsibilities are to:

- strive for success and learn to the best of my ability.
- demonstrate a growth mindset.
- arrive at school on time and be ready to learn.
- participate in class.
- complete all my assignments to the best of my ability.
- ask for help when I need it.
- read each and every day.
- follow the SOAR PBIS Matrix and school procedures.

As a parent/guardian of a successful Wentworth Eagle student, I understand my responsibilities are to:

- encourage a positive attitude for learning.
- make sure he/she attends school regularly and on time.
- communicate with the teacher and school staff by connecting to ClassDojo and other platforms.
- review student work and feedback.
- read with my student.
- ensure he/she gets an adequate amount of sleep each night.

Title I Parent Involvement / Rockingham County Schools

Policy Code: 1320/3560

The Board of Education believes that the education of children is an ongoing cooperative partnership between the home and the school. Parents are their children's first teachers; therefore, the continued involvement of parents in the educational process is most important in fostering and improving educational achievement. The involvement of parents in their children's education has been demonstrated to increase student success and to result in better schools. The school district will strive to support parents and provide parents with opportunities to become involved in the programs offered by the Title I schools. Parents are expected to cooperate with the school systems by becoming knowledgeable of program goals and activities and by working to reinforce their children's learning at home. For the purposes of this policy and the Title I program, the term "parental involvement" means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring the following:

1. That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
2. That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
3. That parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in the decision making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
4. That the school district engages in activities to support parental involvement in the Title I programs.

A. Purpose and Operation of Title I Program

The purpose of the Title I program is to provide instructional activities and supportive services over and above those provided by the regular school program for eligible economically disadvantaged students. Where applicable, students will be selected to receive Title I services based on objective criteria that are consistent with federal and state requirements, such as standardized test scores, teacher judgment, results of pre-school screening and home-school surveys.

Qualified Title I schools will operate as school wide programs or targeted assisted programs based upon federal eligibility criteria. School wide programs will utilize a comprehensive school improvement process enabling schools to serve all students in the school. Targeted assisted programs will provide services to eligible students in the school having the greatest need for assistance.

B. Annual Meeting and Evaluation

Each year, Title I parents will be invited to an annual meeting at which time parental rights will be explained, programs and activities provided with Title I funds will be discussed and input will be solicited. In addition, all parents will have an opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of the Title I programs and the parental involvement policies and plans. The Rockingham County Schools federal programs staff will also evaluate the effectiveness of the Title I programs and parental involvement policies. Data collected from these findings will be used to revise Title I programs and parent involvement plans.

C. Parental Involvement Goals and Efforts

The board believes that the involvement of Title I parents in the design and implementation of the Title I program will increase the effectiveness of the program and contribute significantly to the success of the children. The Title I staff and all school district personnel will strive to involve parents in activities throughout the school year.

Rockingham County Schools in coordination with parents of participating children will develop programs, activities and procedures, which have the following goals:

1. To inform parents of the reasons for their children's participation and the specific instructional objectives and methods of the program.
2. To consult with parents, on an ongoing basis, concerning the manner in which the school and parents can better work together to achieve the program's objectives.
3. To train parents and teachers to build a partnership between home and school.
4. To provide a comprehensive range of opportunities for parents to become informed about how the program will be designed, operated, and evaluated.
5. To ensure opportunities for the participation of parents who lack literacy skills or whose native language is not English.
6. To provide parents with information concerning North Carolina's Standard Course of Study, student academic achievement, and state and local academic assessments.
7. To provide parents upon request information about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom and any teacher or paraprofessional who teaches their child.
8. The superintendent will ensure that the district level parent involvement policy is developed with, agreed upon with and distributed to parents of participating students. In addition to the district level parent involvement policy, each school participating in the Title I program will jointly develop and distribute to parents a school level written parental involvement policy that describes the means for carrying out school-level policy, sharing responsibility for student academic achievement, building the capacity of school staff and parents for involvement, and increasing accessibility for participation of all Title I parents including those with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children. School level plans will involve parents in the planning and improvement of Title I activities and will provide for the distribution to parents of information on expected student proficiency levels and the school's academic performance.

In addition, the school district and Title I schools will do the following:

1. Involve parents in the joint development of the Title I Program and the process of school review and improvement by including parents on the school advisory committee and committees that review the Title I program, by using the School Improvement team members, and by providing the parents at each school with an opportunity to review the plan;
2. Provide coordination, technical assistance and other support from various central office departments necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities that are designed to improve student academic achievement and school performance, including, but not limited to, Parent Curriculum and Testing Nights, Family Fun Nights and lesson observations;
3. Build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement by collecting and disseminating information on effective parent involvement techniques;
4. Provide assistance to parents of participating Title I children in understanding the state's testing standards, the assessments used, Title I requirements and all national, state and local standards and expectations through such efforts as community based meetings, sending information home, newsletters, workshops and newspaper articles;
5. With the assistance of parents, ensure that teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff are educated in the value of parents as partners in the educational process and understand how to work with, communicate with and reach out to parents as equal partners in education;
6. Distribute to parents information on expected student proficiency levels for their child and the school's academic performance, and provide materials and training to help parents monitor their child's progress and work with educators to improve achievement through such methods as technology or literacy training;

7. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with parent involvement activities in other programs, such as preschool, Head Start, Parents as Teachers and similar programs;
8. With the involvement of parents, conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the school district parent involvement policies and program to determine current and future needs, and ensure that such policies are developed/modified with, agreed upon with and distributed each Fall to parents of participating students;
9. Strive to eliminate barriers of parental participation by assisting parents who are disabled, economically-disadvantaged, have limited English proficiency, are migratory or have other backgrounds or characteristics that may affect participation, including making a conscientious effort, to the extent practicable, to provide all written communication, including parental involvement policies, in a language that is spoken or read at home;
10. Design a parent, student, school staff compact that sets out respective responsibilities in striving to raise student achievement and explains how an effective home/school partnership will be developed and maintained;
11. Coordinate and integrate all parent involvement strategies in Rockingham County Schools and conduct other activities in the community that encourage and support parents to more fully participate in the education of their child;
12. Strengthen the partnership with agencies, businesses and programs that operate in the community and provide opportunities for schools to conduct programs in the community;
13. Ensure that parents are involved in the school's Title I activities;
14. Provide parents with regular progress reports and hold at least one parent-teacher conference for each child to discuss progress, placement, methods of instruction and the parent/teacher/student/principal compact; and
15. Provide such other reasonable support for Title I parental involvement activities as requested by parents.

D. Activities and Use of Funds

Parent programs and activities will include the following:

1. Parent/student/teacher/principal compact;
2. Conferences, resource centers and training programs;
3. Reporting on children's progress through interim reports and report cards on a regular basis;
4. Coordinating parent activities and making contacts in the home through phone calls and home visits;
5. Use of classroom volunteers, tutors and assistants;
6. Reinforcement of classroom activities and student motivation through take-home assignments and activities;
7. Support for parents and students through the Homework Assistance Line and RCS Parent Resource Center; and
8. Information on programs and the annual evaluation of these programs.
9. Reasonable and necessary expenditures associated with parent training sessions and hiring, training and utilization of parental involvement/curriculum support personnel may be supported by each program's funds.
10. The superintendent will develop administrative procedures to implement the requirements of this policy.

Adopted: January 4, 1996 Revised: September 15, 2003, December 12, 2005

Title I Parent Involvement Policy Wentworth Elementary School

Parental involvement at Wentworth Elementary School is strongly encouraged. Parents play a vital role in their child's education and their involvement can further the educational opportunities and achievement of their children. *We strive to build a strong, positive relationship between home, school, and community in the following ways:*

- A copy of the Parent Involvement Policy will be included in the Title I Handbook and will be provided to every parent at the beginning of the school year.
- The School Improvement Plan will be made available for parents to review and to make comments/suggestions. Parent representatives will serve on the School Improvement Team.
- A yearly schedule of Parent Involvement Opportunities/ Family Engagement Opportunities will be provided to parents at the beginning of the year.
- A Title I Annual Meeting/Classroom Orientations Meeting will be held during the open house. Parents are given the opportunity to meet the staff, learn about the Title I Program and become familiar with grade level curriculum and expectations.
- Parent/Student/Teacher Compacts are signed at the first parent conference at the beginning of the year or sent home if a conference has not been had by the first quarter, indicating responsibility for learning from all parties.
- Weekly automated voice messages inform parents of curricular matters, classroom activities, programs and parent involvement opportunities.
- A school marquee placed in front of the school informs parents of upcoming events and activities.
- Information regarding the RCS Parent Resource Centers and the Homework Assistance Line will be provided to every parent. Parents are encouraged to use this service throughout the year. Teachers also refer students to the RCS Parent Resource Center for access to additional instructional materials that can be used at home.
- Parents and students may access the RCS website and the Wentworth Elementary School web-page to obtain information about classroom and school activities.
- Parent/Family Trainings will be conducted throughout the year in order to present information to parents regarding curriculum and strategies that can be used at home to reinforce skills taught at school. These trainings will focus on the curriculum areas of reading, writing, math, technology and test taking skills. Parents will be given an opportunity to evaluate the parent workshops and make suggestions/comments. These events will be scheduled during the year and offer flexible opportunities for families to participate.
- Classroom observations are scheduled throughout the year enabling families to visit their child's classroom and observe a lesson being taught.
- Information about curriculum, assessments, programs and activities will be provided in a timely manner. The information will be provided in a language and format understandable to non-English speaking families.
- Interpreters will be provided as needed for parent conferences or meetings.
- Parent Conferences will be scheduled to discuss student progress. Conferences are also held, if requested, to help parents interpret EOG test performance.
- The staff at Wentworth Elementary School will maintain an open communication system.

The RCS Title I Parent Involvement Policy 1320/3560 can be viewed on the RCS website.

Title I Schools – Working Together to Make a Difference

Purpose of Title I

Title I, Part A (Title I) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, provides financial assistance to school districts and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards. There are many components of Title I and one that we believe makes a significant difference is parental involvement. By parent, we are referring to a natural parent, a legal guardian or other person responsible for the child's welfare.

Making a Difference

Parental involvement has always been a centerpiece of Title I. Parental involvement is defined as the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, ensuring:

- that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child

Families have a significant influence on their child's achievement in school and in life. When we take a team approach by including schools, families, and community groups to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more. Studies have found that students with involved parents, no matter what their income or background, are more likely to:

- earn high grades and test scores, and enroll in higher-level programs;
- pass their classes, earn credits, and be promoted;
- attend school regularly; and
- graduate and go on to postsecondary education.

Through Title I programming, we offer resources for parents in supporting student learning at both the district and school level. Please continue to work with your child's school to support his/her needs. In addition, we offer services through our Parent Resource Centers. Contact information for these centers is located below. We hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to be the key to your child's success. More information about our Parent Resource Centers is also available by visiting www.rock.k12.nc.us/PRC.

In the words of Brian Tracey, "If you raise your children to feel that they can accomplish any goal or task they decide upon, you will have succeeded as a parent and you will have given your children the greatest of all blessings."

Rockingham County Schools

511 Harrington Hwy Eden, North Carolina 27288 Phone: 336-627-2600

To: All Parents of Students Enrolled in Title I Schools

From: Human Resources Department

Subject: Notification to Parents of Teacher Qualifications

The purpose of this notice is to inform parents of children attending a Title I school of their right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct their child. As a recipient of these funds, Rockingham County Schools will provide you with this information in a timely manner if you request it. Specifically, you have the right to request the following information about each of your child's classroom teachers:

- Whether the teacher meets the state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grades and core academic subjects he or she teaches.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status because of special circumstances.
- The teacher's college major, whether the teacher has any advanced degrees, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether teacher assistants provide services to your child and, if so, their qualifications.

In addition, the law requires that all schools that receive Title I funds must provide notification to every parent in the school whose child is being taught for four or more weeks by a teacher who is not "Highly Qualified," regardless of whether or not the teacher is being paid with Title I funds.

Rockingham County Schools is committed to providing instruction for all students and does so by employing the most qualified individuals to teach and support each student in the classroom. If you would like to receive any of the information listed above for your child's teacher, please complete the request form and send in as directed.

Encl.: Teacher/Teacher Assistant Information Request Form

Teacher/Teacher Assistant Information Request Form

Request for Information About Teacher/Teacher Assistant Qualifications

Instructions to Parents:

Please complete this form. Use a separate form for each teacher or teacher assistant. Return the completed form to your school's office or mail to:

Rockingham County Schools, Human Resources Department
511 Harrington Hwy,
Eden, North Carolina 27288

Information will be sent to you within 30 days.

School Name: _____

Name of Teacher: Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____

or

Name of Teacher Assistant: Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____

Grade Level: _____ Subject (if applicable): _____

Name of Parent(s) Requesting Information: _____

Name of Student: _____

Mailing Address (where information is to be sent):

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Daytime telephone number in case of questions: _____

For district use:

Received by school/date/initials:

Received by HR/date/initials;

Completed by initials/date mailed:

Copy to:

Notes:

The Rockingham County School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, homelessness or otherwise in its educational programs and activities and in employment. ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS