

# RiverEast Therapeutic Day School

## 2023-24 Family Engagement Plan

School Introduction: RiverEast Therapeutic Day School is a very small setting focused on helping students improve upon their social emotional skills. Staff work to build relationships with students and their families.

The Family Engagement Plan (FEP) is organized into four impact areas. We will be working together this year to build positive and goal-oriented relationships in each area. Families and staff at school developed this plan together.

<b>Welcoming Environment</b>	
<b>Our school has staff member(s) available for families to discuss this plan and ask questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Katie Horton, principal - -katie.horton@spps.org</li></ul>
<b>Our school communicates with families in many ways.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Our monthly newsletter is full of important information for families. A paper copy is sent home with students and an electronic copy is sent via email.</li><li>• When families call, email, or send a note, we do our best to respond within 24 hours or less.</li></ul>
<b>The achievement gap, or rather the “opportunity gap,” between students of color and white students in Saint Paul Public Schools is unacceptable. Our school is working to change practices and systems by identifying the barriers that make it harder for students of color to succeed and for their families to support their learning.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• For more about our work on racial equity, contact our principal, Katie Horton.</li></ul>
<b>Transitions between schools can be challenging, and we work to help families as their children start and leave our school.</b>	<p><b>For new students and families, we support the transition by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Holding an intake with families so they can get to know their child’s new team.</li><li>• We provide multiple contacts (administration, social workers, case managers, behavior specialists, etc.) to families so they can always reach someone to have their questions answered.</li></ul> <p><b>For students and families moving to a less restrictive setting, we support the transition by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Working with the receiving school to design an individualized transition plan which can include a split day between RiverEast and the new school, tours of the new school, and/or RiverEast staff attending the new school for a specific period of time.</li></ul>

## Family Partnerships

<p><b>Our school-parent compact establishes the shared responsibility for student success between the school, families, and students. Families and teachers work together to develop the compact.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Copies of the compact are available:</b> On our school website and in our main office.</li> <li>● <b>The compact will be updated:</b> Annually</li> </ul>
<p><b>There are many opportunities for families to build connections to the school and to each other.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Title I Annual Meeting where we will share information about school programs held at RiverEast and Title I implementation, requirements and opportunities for parent engagement.</li> <li>● For those who can't attend, we put the PowerPoint on our website.</li> <li>● School wide events, including the Open House in August, Harvest Dinner in November, and the Family Picnic in the spring.</li> <li>● National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) will be on February 12, 2024</li> <li>● IEP meetings and conferences</li> </ul>
<p><b>We work to make these meetings and events available for every family in the school.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We offer interpreters at all conferences and upon request.</li> <li>● We provide free transportation to families who need support.</li> <li>● All families receive a personal invitation to all school events.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Our school supports families as advocates and provides opportunities for parent leadership</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● If families have concerns about their child's progress, they are encouraged to reach out to their child's case manager. Families are also always welcome to reach out to administration.</li> <li>● Families have the right to request an IEP meeting at any time.</li> <li>● Families will be invited to participate in the development of the SCIP and family engagement plans.</li> <li>● RiverEast provides school wide Digital Citizenship training</li> </ul>

<b>Teaching and Learning</b>	
<b>Our school shares information about state standards, assessment, and student achievement with families in multiple ways</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students receive P/NP grades and IEP progress reports, at least as frequently as in general education. Students in grades K-5 also receive SPPS grade level standards-based reports cards. This information is provided to parents to help monitor and support student progress towards grade level academic expectations.</li> <li>● Parent-Teacher conferences are held in November and March at a time that is most convenient for the family. Conferences can be in person or virtual.</li> <li>● Teachers and social workers reach out to families on a weekly basis to check in regarding students’ progress.</li> <li>● Families are invited to an intake before their child starts at RiverEast to have the opportunity to build relationships with staff and learn more about the programming.</li> </ul>
<b>Our school will engage in personalized learning as a key strategy to accelerate student achievement. Parents can get more information using many tools.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Parent log-in information can be accessed at <a href="http://spps.org/onestop">spps.org/onestop</a> or by asking the school clerk.</li> <li>● 1:1 iPad are issued to all students.</li> <li>● Depending upon your child’s IEP goals and objectives, assignments will be on Schoology or SeeSaw.</li> </ul>
<b>Many before- and after-school enrichment and support opportunities are available for students</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● When appropriate, students will attend enrichment activities through their community school.</li> </ul>

<b>Community Partnerships</b>	
Our school develops community partnerships to provide additional support for students and their families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Student of the month</li> </ul>

This plan is available as part of our school’s SCIP, or School Comprehensive Improvement Plan at [spps.org/scip](http://spps.org/scip), is on our school website at [RiverEast.spps.org](http://RiverEast.spps.org), and printed copies are available in the office.