

## **River Valley Middle School Title I Parental Involvement Philosophy**

River Valley Middle School will invite parents of participating children to an annual evening meeting, held in September where the Title I program and its services will be explained. Parents will be informed of the schools' participation in the program and its requirements as well as their right to be involved in the program. Parents will be invited to this meeting using the school's Instant Alert message distribution system, emails, phone calls, or by sending letters home.

River Valley Middle School will offer meetings at the end of each grading period for the purpose of evaluating the program's effectiveness and to determine whether revision of the program is necessary and whether additional professional development is needed. In addition, the school will host an annual meeting to be held in March for the purpose of reviewing the program using assessment data and surveys provided to the participating students, their parents and classroom teachers. At this annual meeting, planning for the upcoming school year will take place and the risk assessment will be updated for the purpose of creating a new list of targeted students. River Valley Middle School will encourage parental involvement at these quarterly and annual meetings by offering child care and transportation.

Review and improvement of parent involvement activities will be in the form of on-going communication throughout the school year with parents, students and classroom teachers, but formally at the spring parent-teacher conference. Parents who do not attend conferences will receive a written survey in the mail with questions customized to determine how involved they felt in the Title I program.

River Valley Middle School will provide participating students' parents an explanation of the curriculum, the forms of academic assessment and the proficiency levels expected at its annual fall meeting and at parent-teacher conferences. In addition, this information will be shared along with student progress during regular contact initiated by either the parent or the Title I Instructor. Parents will be encouraged to share their suggestions for the program and receive response regarding their student's education in a timely manner.

River Valley Middle School will include parents in the development and review of a school-parent compact which will outline the responsibilities of the school staff, the parents and the student for academic improvement. The compact will include the school's responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive, effective learning environment; parent's responsibility for such things as monitoring attendance, homework, excessive television watching and encouraging their child to read daily; the importance of parent teacher communication on an on-going basis through at least annual parent teacher conferences to discuss achievement and the compact; frequent reports to parents on their children's progress; reasonable access to the staff and opportunities to observe and participate in classroom activities.