

“You cannot restore a community you did not build” Restorative practices



June 12, 2020

Dear River Terrace Family,

The time for “Restoration” is now! We have worked tirelessly the past two years to **Restore** the relationships between home, school, and our community partners. Now is the time to continuously work together to achieve one common goal which is to educate and share pertinent information about how to increase family engagement which ultimately increases students’ academic growth. Disseminating information between schools, families, and community partners will not only create sustainable relationships but it can lead to dispelling common myths. **Myth 1:** Minority parents do not care about their children’s education **Myth 2:** Teacher Knows Best: The teacher is the sole expert in educating a child. A parent should never question a teacher or staff on school-related issues.

RTEC has experienced record-breaking growth in parental participation and home visits within the past two years. Parent Teacher Conferences increased from 9 parents in SY19 to 64 parents in SY20. In SY20, 59 parents responded to the Panorama survey, compared to 7 in SY19 which was an 88% increase. Parent Satisfaction ratio on the Spring 2020 Panorama Survey was 88%, compared to the District’s average of 89%; 87% of parents agreed that RTEC has rigorous expectations for students, compared to 81% for the DCPS school district. Additionally, 51 parents attended the Holiday Celebration in SY 20 compared to 41 parents in SY19.

We realize that families are the most valuable stakeholders in the students' lives and developing this relationship as an organization should be intentional. The Family Engagement Committee is grateful for your continuous support, acknowledgement and encouragement of all family and community events. We couldn’t have made such gains without your help. There is so much more to accomplish and we look forward to continuing restoring relationships in the 2020-2021 school year.

Sincerely,

The Family Engagement Committee

The Family Engagement Committee
SY 2019-2020