


**DEL RIO  
ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL  
STUDENT HANDBOOK**

# WELCOME

- Welcome to Del Rio Elementary, where we value every student. We are committed to cultivating each student's ability, intellect, and character. Del Rio Elementary provides an engaging and academically enriching environment designed to support the collaborative education efforts of teachers, students, staff, and the community. We challenge and empower students to become lifelong learners and successful leaders. We want our students to be critical thinkers and problem solvers, embrace challenges with a growth mindset and be kind and respectful to others. We teach students that learning is a struggle and to be brave enough to persevere. Del Rio is a special place where we truly care about our students, and the teachers and staff go above and beyond to build relationships. We focus on the whole child and want to see them become successful. Our teachers commit themselves to design engaging lessons with appropriate levels of academic rigor to meet the needs of all students. This commitment ensures that rigorous and relevant learning is happening in the classroom, instills strong character traits, and builds positive relationships with students. Our overall goal is for our students to become productive and responsible citizens who contribute positively to their world. We have high expectations for each student and challenge our students to become their best selves. Parental involvement is key to ensuring your child's success in school. Parents are strongly encouraged to remain involved and support their child's educational program. Our goal is to work together to maintain an effective positive learning environment.
- Del Rio Elementary is blessed with a community that embraces the school and its efforts. We acknowledge the community's endless support as a key factor in our school's success. We welcome you and hope you understand what it means to be a Del Rio Trojan. I am truly honored to serve as your principal.
- I look forward to seeing you at school.
- **Enthusiastically,**
- **Ms. Kaye Ramsey**
- **Principal**
- **Del Rio Elementary School**

The background is a dark blue grid with decorative white circuit-like lines in the corners. The lines consist of straight segments and small circles, resembling a network or data flow diagram.

**Del Rio Elementary School, in partnership with parents and the community, is committed to educating our children while providing a safe and nurturing environment that promotes a passion for life-long learning, respect for self and others, and an appreciation for individual differences.**

-The Del Rio Team

## **OUR MISSION**

# TROJAN TRAITS

- BE RESPECTFUL
- BE RESPONSIBLE
- BE READY TO LEARN
- BE SAFE

# DEL RIO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLEDGE

- As a Del Rio Elementary School student, I pledge to:
- Behave in ways that show good manners and self-control
- Engage in my own learning by participating in class and completing my work
- Safely cooperate with students, teachers, and staff

AND...Treat everyone with respect and dignity. Trojan hands always help!  
Trojan hands never harm!!!!

7:10am - School doors open. Upon arrival, students report to cafeteria

8:15am - School day begins.

*(Any student arriving to school after 8:15am will be tardy. Remember, 3 unexcused tardies count as an unexcused absence.)*

## School Day...8:15 to 3:15

3:15pm - K-3 car riders dismissed to Gym. Afternoon dismissal is out the gym doors on the side of the building. Students have a dismissal tag that should be displayed in the front of the car.

## Afterschool...3:15 to 6:15

**SCHOOL  
HOURS**

# MORNING PROCEDURES-

- The doors to the school will open each morning at 7:10am. Any student arriving before 7:10am must remain outside the building. Please refrain from dropping students off before this time as students will be unsupervised and the school will not be responsible or liable for any incident that might occur. The speed limit is 5mph in the front circle and all parking lots.
- As students enter the building, they will report to their designated hallway area to place their backpack. Students need to wash hands and report to the cafeteria. Breakfast will be served at 7:30 AM. Students are dismissed from the cafeteria at 8AM by the staff member on duty.
- Escorting students to class - In order to ensure the safety of your child, all students in grades 1-8 must report to his or her respective classroom without the accompaniment of a parent escort. Kindergarten parents may escort their child/children to class until August 30th. After this date, kindergarten students should report to class alone. Thank you in advance for your understanding and assistance with this request.

# SCHOOL VISITORS

- Our top priority is to provide your child/children with a quality education in a safe learning environment. In order to maintain a safe environment, **all parents and visitors must go to the office and identify themselves, explain the reason for their visit, and obtain a visitor's pass before visiting a classroom.**
- Instructional time - The main concern of the faculty at Del Rio School is to supply your child with a quality education. In order to do this, it is essential that instructional time have as few interruptions as possible. Each teacher appreciates the interest you have in your child's education, and they are willing to meet with you about any of your concerns. **However, parent/teacher conferences must be scheduled in advance so that instructional time is not lost.** Teachers have the responsibility for classes and planning and cannot stop for unscheduled conferences. We request that you call the school to schedule an appointment if you need to meet with a teacher.
- Open House (Parent/Teacher Conference Nights) - There will be two Open House sessions held each year. One session will be scheduled for each semester. The school will notify parents of the date and time of the session. These conferences allow the parents and teachers an opportunity to discuss student progress and achievement. Parents are urged to attend and be involved in their child's education.



# ATTENDANCE AND TRUANCY POLICIES

- Attendance is a key factor in student achievement and therefore, students are expected to be present each day school is in session. Student achievement is negatively impacted anytime a student is absent, tardy, or leaves early. Parents are legally responsible to ensure his or her children are in school. Students should strive for perfect attendance. Please make every attempt to schedule doctor and dental appointments for afterschool hours. In the event of an absence, a note explaining the reason for absence should be provided to the student's teacher.
- Absences shall be classified as either authorized or unauthorized as determined by the principal or his/her designee. Authorized absences include: personal illness, illness of immediate family member, death in the family, extreme weather conditions, religious observances, **signed parent notes of which no more than 5 may be used during the school year**, circumstances which in the judgment of the principal create emergencies over which the student has no control, school sponsored activities, or subpoena to court.
- Truancy is defined as an absence for an entire school day, a major portion of the school day or the major portion of any class, study hall, or activity during the school day for which the student is scheduled.
- **Students who are absent five (5) days without adequate excuse will be reported to the director of schools** who will, in turn, provide written notice to the parents/guardians of the student's absences. In addition, the principal/designee shall initiate meaningful communications with the student and parent/guardian in order to determine the underlying cause(s) of the unexcused absences. The principal/designee shall then develop an attendance plan and coordinate additional services designated to improve the student's attendance.
- **One absence shall be recorded for unauthorized tardies or unauthorized leave earlys or any combination of unauthorized tardies or unauthorized leave earlys equaling 3 that the student receives.**
- Continual truancy problems are serious offenses and could result in citation to the Truancy Board or Juvenile Court.

# CAFETERIA POLICIES

- The National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs competitive food policy requires that:
- Students may bring a lunch from home, but they must eat their lunch in the cafeteria.
- Carbonated drinks are not allowed.
- No glass containers are permitted on school grounds.
- No competitive foods are allowed to come through the serving line. For example, if a student wants to bring food from an outside vendor, it could not be brought to the cafeteria in its original packaging or labeling.
- Our system has opted to participate in the Community Eligibility Program (CEP), which means **all of our students receive both breakfast and lunch at no charge.**

# TRANSFERS

- In-state Transfers - School records will be requested from the previous school. It is the parent's responsibility to provide information regarding immunizations.
- Out-of-state Transfers - Tennessee State Law requires that no child shall be permitted to enroll in (or attend) any school without proof of immunization. It is the responsibility of the parents or guardians to have their children immunized. Proof of immunization is the Tennessee Certificate of Immunization (TWIS Form) which is obtained through a physician or the health department.
- No student shall transfer to Del Rio School during the school year unless the student and/or parent move into the school zone. Documentation must be presented to the administration/office staff to verify the change of address (utilities bill, rent statement, notarized statement, etc.).
- Exceptions to this may include students experiencing homelessness, students in foster care, immigrant students, migrant students, and English Language Learners. There will be no barriers to enrollment for these student groups.

# GENERAL OFFICE INFORMATION

- **New Registration (usually Kindergarten/pre-school)** A birth certificate or officially acceptable evidence of date of birth is required at time of registration

- **Medications**

No medication (Aspirin, Tylenol, etc.) can be given to your child by a staff member unless the medication is sent to school in the original container and accompanied by a note from the parent/guardian. If a child becomes too sick to stay at school, the school secretary will contact you to come and get your child.

- **Phone Calls**

If a student needs to use the telephone, they must have a written note or phone pass from his or her assigned teacher.

- **Messages for Students / Transportation Plans**

Only emergency messages will be delivered to students during the school day. **Please plan ahead with your child/children to avoid unnecessary calls and messages.**

If your child's transportation plan is different from his or her normal routine (going home with someone else, riding/not riding the bus, etc.), please write a note to the teacher and make him/her aware of the change. **No student will be allowed to walk home or ride a different bus without written permission from the parent or guardian.**

- **Emergency Information Changes**

Any change of address, telephone number, or emergency contact should be reported to the school office immediately.

- **Child Custody Information-**

Custody forms must be on file in the school office. It is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian to provide current copies of custody papers to the school. Changes in custody should be reported to the school office immediately.

# **GENERAL OFFICE INFORMATION**

- **Emergency Drills-**

There are three (3) types of emergency drills conducted during the school year: fire, tornado, and intruder drill. Teachers will teach and reinforce procedures for each event throughout the school year.

- **Lost and Found-**

Articles found in and around the school should be turned into the school office. All items will be placed in the school's lost and found which is located on the stage in the cafeteria. Identification is much easier when student names are written on backpacks, coats, bags, etc.

- **Weather-related Dismissal-**

Parents need to have prior arrangements made for the care of his or her child or children in the event that school is dismissed early due to inclement weather conditions.

# DRESS CODE- POLICY NUMBER 6.310

- Students shall dress and groom in a clean, neat and modest manner so as not to distract or interfere with the operation of the school.
- More specific guidelines appropriate for each level of school (elementary or high school) may be developed. Principals, faculty members and students shall be involved in the development of each appropriate set of guidelines.
- When a student is attired in a manner which is likely to cause disruption or interference with the operation of the school, the principal shall take appropriate action, which may include suspension.
- ELEMENTARY (K-8) DRESS CODE
  - 1. Shirts must not be cut below the normal armpit (boys and girls) and must not come below the top of the breast. All shirts must reach the top of pants, shorts, or skirts at all times (no skin showing).
  - 2. Shorts may be worn by both males and females as long as the length is fingertip length.
  - 3. The length of skirts and dresses must meet the same guidelines as shorts.
  - 4. When leggings are worn, the shirt (or outermost garment) must adhere to the fingertip rule.
  - 5. Clothes may not be worn with holes above the knees.
  - 6. Appropriate undergarments are to be worn and must not be visible.
  - 7. The waist of pants is not to be worn below the hips.
  - 8. Clothing with inappropriate language or graphics is not permitted.
  - 9. No clothing may have beer, whiskey, tobacco, drug labels or suggestive pictures or language written or printed on them.
  - 10. Hats and/or caps are not to be worn during instructional time or at academic functions.
  - 11. Students will not dress, groom or wear or use emblems, insignias, badges, or other symbols where the effect thereof is to distract unreasonably the attention of other students or employees, or otherwise cause disruption or interference with the operation of the school.
  - 12. Any accessory that is studded, spiked, contains chains, or can tabs or in any way presents a potential danger or harm to self or others is prohibited.
  - 13. Tattoos whether permanent or temporary will be covered if possible.
  - 14. Visible body piercings are limited to the ear only. Eyebrow, nose, lip, tongue, etc... piercings are not permitted.

# DRESS CODE

- **Note: Compliance with dress code will be based on the outermost garment. For example, if a student chooses to wear tights/leggings, she must have an outer garment that meets the standards of the dress code.**
- **Dress Code/School Activity Exceptions:** The school may develop special dress days for special occasions at the direction of the school principal which allow for an exception to the dress code (i.e. “Hat Day”, “Pajama Day”, etc.).
- **Special Situations:** If a student cannot comply with the standardized dress code based on special conditions or religious beliefs, his or her parent or guardian may write a letter explaining the situation to the principal. If permission is granted, this letter will be kept in the student’s school record. Each case will be handled on an individual basis. Appropriate documentation will be required.

- **Dress Code Disciplinary Action-**

On the first offense, the student will receive a warning and be instructed not to wear the clothing item back to school and/or asked to change into more appropriate clothing.

On the second offense, the parents or guardian will be notified to bring appropriate clothing to school.

Any additional dress code offenses will result in office referral for disciplinary action.

# DEL RIO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION/BUS POLICY

- Students will only be permitted to exit a bus at their designated destination unless written permission from his or her parents gives authority for the driver to do otherwise. Drivers will only deliver students to other destinations which are on their regular routes.
- Students must have a fixed location for catching the bus and arrive at that location on time.
- Students should stand well off the road and stand clear of the bus until it comes to a complete stop.
- Students who must cross the road to board a bus or reach their home from the bus must do so under the direction of the driver.

## Rules and Policies

- Students who ride buses to and from school are under school rules and regulations from the time they board the buses in the morning until they arrive at their appropriate destination in the afternoon. Students are required to follow all reasonable rules instituted by the driver. (See School Board Policy.)
- Drivers may assign students permanent seating on the bus if needed.
- Students will be responsible for any intentional damage caused to the bus.
- Consistent with school board policy, students who fail to comply with bus rules and regulations will be subject to disciplinary action including potential bus suspension or removal of bus privileges.



# CELL PHONE / PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICE POLICY

- Board Policy Number 6.312
- *Upon arrival on school grounds, students may possess a personal communication device with written permission from their parents. This permission will be kept on file in the school office. The personal communication device must be in the off mode and must be placed in a backpack, pocketbook or stored out of sight until the end of the school day. The principal or designee may grant a student permission to use the personal communication device at their discretion. **Violation of this policy will result in the confiscation of the device. On the first offense, the student's parent or guardian can retrieve the phone from the school. Additional violations would result in confiscation of the device for seven (7) calendar days for the second offense and thirty (30) calendar days for each offense thereafter.** Should the device be confiscated within six (6) days before the end of the school year, it will be returned on the last school day. The device will be subject to search.*
- *Should a student possess a personal communication device without parental permission, that device will be confiscated for thirty (30) calendar days on each infraction and the device will be subject to search. The device will be returned at the end of the school year if confiscated within twenty-nine (29) days before the end of the school year.*
- *If the 7th or 29th day occurs during a school break (Christmas or Spring Break, etc.), the phone will be returned the first day school resumes.*
- *Any and all personal communication or electronic devices are not required, nor does the school assume any responsibility should these items be lost, damaged, stolen or confiscated.*
- *It is further the policy of the Cocke County Board of Education that the four paragraphs stated above are the minimum requirements regarding the use of cell phones on school grounds during instructional time. Individual schools are free to adopt more restrictive policies than written above so long as the same are submitted to and approved by the Cocke County Board of Education.*

# GRADING, CURRICULUM, AND PROMOTION POLICIES

- Report cards will be sent home at the end of each grading period. Parents should sign and return the report card to school. Written comments may be included when returning the report card.
- Progress reports will be sent home every three/four and 1/2 weeks. They are to be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the teacher within one week.
- Honor roll is comprised of students who receive no less than a “B” in major content areas (Math, Reading/Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies).
- Promotion/Retention- Policy Number 4.603
- Students will normally progress annually in sequential order from grade to grade. The staff will place students at the grade level best suited to them academically, socially and emotionally. The determination of whether a pupil is promoted or retained in grade or which class he is assigned to is made by appropriate school officials, not others or parents. The law clearly authorizes the local board "through its officers and employees" to assign children not only to schools but also to "grades, classes, or courses of study within school." Retentions may be made when, in judgment of the teacher, such retentions are in the best interest of the student(s).

# DISCIPLINE/STUDENT CONDUCT POLICIES

- Students should always strive to obey all school rules. However, the principal and teachers are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective discipline within the school. All teachers have not only the right, but the responsibility and duty to reprimand or correct any student who is misbehaving. By state law, the principal and teachers stand “in loco parentis” (A Latin legal term meaning “in place of parent”) while the child is under their care and supervision.
- School staff and parents must assume the responsibility for appropriate behavior in the school. We enlist the aid of parents and other staff members to maintain what we consider to be proper discipline and conduct. As a staff, we know our parents will be supportive of maintaining good discipline and conduct in our school.
- **Respect of Staff Members-** Students should show respect for teachers and staff members at all times. **Disrespect by students toward any teacher or staff member will not be tolerated.** Disrespect to teachers and staff will result in disciplinary action.
- **Student-to-Student Conduct-** Displays of public affection (kissing, “holding hands”, etc.) are not allowed on school grounds or at school-sponsored events.
- **Respect of Personal Property-** Students are expected to show respect and be responsible for their actions toward other individuals and their property. Students should not take or damage the property of other students, school personnel, or the school system.
- Students damaging school property will be responsible for restitution, replacement, or repair costs. They will also be subject to disciplinary action.
- **Student Valuables/Personal Property-** Students are advised not to bring valuables/personal items (large amounts of money, electronics, cell phones, etc.) to school. The school will not be responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen personal property. **Students are not allowed to sell or exchange items at school.**

# STUDENT CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

## LOST TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS

- Lost books and materials assigned to the student must be paid for by the parents or guardian.
- Textbooks/devices issued to students are the property of the Coker County Board of Education. They should be used with care and returned in good condition. Students and parents are responsible to pay for books/devices which are lost, stolen, or damaged beyond repair.
- The school will not issue any additional textbooks/materials and will withhold all grade cards, diplomas, certificates of progress, or transcriptions until restitution is made.

## PROFANE OR INDECENT LANGUAGE

- Profane and indecent language will not be permitted on school grounds or buses.

# DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO

- Students will not consume, possess, use, sell, distribute or be under the influence of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages in school buildings or on school grounds at any time, in school vehicles or buses, or at any school-sponsored activity, function or event whether on or off school grounds. This includes but is not limited to abuse of inhalants and prescription drugs.
- Disciplinary sanctions will be imposed on students who violate standards of conduct required by this policy. Such sanctions will be consistent with local, state, and federal laws, up to and including suspension/expulsion as well as referral for prosecution.
- Upon information that a student is suspected of violating this policy, the principal of the school shall be notified immediately. After inquiry and obtaining the facts, if the principal determines that a student has violated this policy, he shall notify the student's parent or guardian and the appropriate law enforcement officials, suspend the student from school, and refer the matter to the Disciplinary Hearing Authority for further action; provided that no student shall be suspended without first having been provided due process.
- Students shall not be allowed to use or be in possession of tobacco or tobacco products while on school property, on school buses, or while participating in school-sponsored activities. Students in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

# WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS-

- Students shall not possess, handle, transmit, use or attempt to use any dangerous weapon in school buildings or on school grounds at any time, or in school vehicles and/or buses or off the school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, function or event.
- Dangerous weapons for the purposes of this policy shall include, but are not limited to a firearm or anything manifestly designed, made or adapted for the purpose of inflicting death or serious bodily injury or anything that in the manner of its use or intended use is capable of causing death or serious bodily injury.
- Violators of this section shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from school.
- In accordance with state law, any student who brings or possess a fi rearm on school property shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

# DISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT

- Students shall be provided a learning environment free from sexual, racial, ethnic and religious discrimination/harassment. It shall be a violation of this policy for any employee or any student to discriminate against or harass a student through disparaging conduct or communication that is sexual, racial, ethnic or religious in nature. The following guidelines are set forth to protect students from discrimination/harassment.
- Student discrimination/harassment will not be tolerated. Discrimination/harassment is defined as conduct, advances, gestures or words either written or spoken of a sexual, racial, ethnic or religious nature which:
  - 1. Unreasonably interfere with the student's work or educational opportunities; or
  - 2. Create an intimidating, hostile or offensive learning environment; or
  - 3. Imply that submission to such conduct is made an explicit or implicit term of receiving grades or credit; or
  - 4. Imply that submission to or rejection of such conduct will be used as a basis for determining the student's grades and/or participation in a student activity

# BULLYING/INTIMIDATION

- Students shall be provided a safe learning environment. It shall be a violation of this policy for any student to bully, intimidate or create a hostile educational environment for another student. Harassment, bullying and intimidation occurs, if the act takes place on school grounds, at any school-sponsored activity, on school-provided equipment or transportation or at any official school bus stop, if the act either physically harms a student or damages his/her property, or knowingly places the student in reasonable fear of such, causes emotional distress to a student or students, or creates a hostile educational environment. If the act takes place off school property or outside of a school-sponsored activity, an act of harassment, bullying or intimidation occurs if the act is directed specifically at a student or students and has the effect of creating a hostile educational environment or otherwise creating a substantial disruption to the education environment or learning process. These acts may also take place through electronic means.
- Alleged victims of the above-referenced offenses shall report these incidents immediately to a teacher, counselor or building administrator. Any allegations shall be fully investigated by a complaint manager (as set forth in Student Concerns, Complaints and Grievances 6.305).



# INTERROGATION BY SCHOOL OFFICIAL

- Students may be questioned by teachers or principals about any matter pertaining to the operation of a school and/or the enforcement of its rules. Questioning must be conducted discreetly and under circumstances which will avoid unnecessary embarrassment to the student being questioned. Any student answering falsely, evasively or refusing to answer a proper question may be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension.
- If a student is suspected or accused of misconduct or infraction of the student code of conduct , the principal may interrogate the student, without the presence of parent(s)/guardian(s) or legal custodians and without giving the student constitutional warnings.

# SEARCHES

- Any principal, or his/her designee, having reasonable suspicion may search any student, place or thing on school property or in the actual or constructive possession of any student during any organized school activity off campus, including buses, vehicles of students or visitors (Notice shall be posted in the school parking lot that vehicles parked on school property by students or visitors are subject to search for drugs, drug paraphernalia or dangerous weapons), and containers or packages if he/she receives information which would cause a reasonable belief that the search will lead to the discovery of:
  - 1. Evidence of any violation of the law;
  - 2. Evidence of any violation of school rules or regulations or proper standards of student or faculty conduct;
  - 3. Any object or substance which, because of its presence, presents an immediate danger of harm or illness to any person.
- A student using a locker that is the property of the school system does not have the right of privacy in that locker or its contents. All lockers or other storage areas provided for student use on school premises remain the property of the school system and are provided for the use of students subject to inspection, access for maintenance and search. Notice shall be posted in each school that lockers and other storage areas are school property and are subject to search.
- A student may be subject to physical search or a student's pocket, purse or other container may be required to be emptied because of the results of a locker search, or because of information received from a teacher, staff member or other student if such action is reasonable to the principal. All of the following standards of reasonableness shall be met:
  - 1. A particular student has violated policy;
  - 2. The search could be expected to yield evidence of the violation of school policy or disclosure of a dangerous weapon or drug;
  - 3. The search is in pursuit of legitimate interests of the school in maintaining order, discipline, safety, supervision and education of students;
  - 4. The primary purpose of the search is not to collect evidence for a criminal prosecution; and
  - 5. The search shall be reasonably related to the objectives of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student, as well as the nature of the infraction alleged to have been committed.

# MISCELLANEOUS

## POSSESSION OR USE OF EXPLOSIVES

- Any student who has in his or her possession any pyrotechnics (firecrackers, powders, explosives, ammunition or related materials) while on school grounds or bus shall be subject to suspension/expulsion from school.

## SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

- During assemblies and other special activities, courtesy should always be shown to guests. Entering and leaving the assembly should be orderly and quietly. Students violating these expectations will be subject to disciplinary action.

# MISCELLANEOUS

## FIELD TRIPS

- All classes have the opportunity for educational field trips. Students whose behavior is uncooperative or consistently poor may be required to stay at school on field trip days.

## DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

- Non-compliance with school rules and policies will result in corrective action being taken by administration. Disciplinary options may include but not limited to: removal from class for a period of time, penalty, loss of privileges, suspension, expulsion, referral to Disciplinary Hearing Authority, or referral to juvenile court.

# RTI<sub>2</sub>-B

- Response to Instruction and Intervention-Behavior (RTI2B) is a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) that offers a powerful, evidence-based approach for meeting the behavioral and social needs of students in Tennessee schools.
- RTI2-B is a promising framework for prevention and intervention within an integrated, three-tiered approach. Each tier of the framework involves careful reflection on the needs of students, the design of interventions matching those needs, and the collection of data to evaluate progress (individually for students and collectively as a school). All of these efforts require a shared school-wide commitment to teach and reinforce positive behavior. It also involves adopting an optimistic view that all students can learn appropriate behavior if sufficient and supportive opportunities to learn are provided. When using positive behavior supports in all three tiers (e.g., focusing on teaching students the behaviors we want to see, as opposed to punishing the behaviors we don't want to see, and developing relationships between student and school staff), schools create a culture where all students and teachers are respected and included in their community. Furthermore, student and staff contributions to the school create a positive and proactive way to acknowledge, engage and respect all stakeholders.
- The purpose of RTI2-B is to empower educators to equip all students with the opportunity to meet high expectations regarding behavior and the support to reach every student. Also, students, families, and educators can work together to develop and contribute to a shared school vision.
- Within the multi-tiered framework of RTI2-B, each tier increases the intensity of intervention and supports so students can be best supported within their school.
- Tier 1: Tier 1 focuses on the behavioral and social needs of all students across the school environment. Approximately 80% of students typically respond to this level of support. Tier 1 includes establishing school-wide expectations to support a sense of safety and inclusion among students and staff, teaching and modeling those expectations within different settings throughout the school, for responding to inappropriate behavior, and maintaining a school-wide system where all stakeholders' opinions are valued.
- Tier II: Tier II involves delivering more targeted interventions for approximately 10-15% of students who do not respond to Tier 1 supports. Tier II interventions are provided in addition to Tier 1 supports in place for all students in the school. Interventions at Tier II are typically systematic, evidence-based interventions that are delivered to groups of students at a time. For example, Tier II interventions typically include small-group social skills instruction, behavior contracts, self-monitoring plans, and check-in/check-out.
- Tier III: Tier III includes individualized interventions for approximately 3-5% of students who do not respond to Tier I or Tier II interventions and supports. Tier III interventions involve the implementation of specialized, one-on-one systems for students. Examples of Tier III supports include individualized counseling and function-based interventions.

# THANK YOU

DEL RIO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STAFF

