

South Columbus Elementary

School Parental Involvement Policy

2018-2019

Principal, Mrs. J. Dawn Jenkins

Assistant Principal, Mrs. Melanie Bastien

1964 Torch Hill Road

Columbus, GA. 31903

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School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it?

The Parent & Family Engagement Policy describes how South Columbus Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. South Columbus Elementary School values the contributions and involvement of parents in order to establish partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. The Parent & Family Engagement Policy describes the different ways the school will support parent engagement and how parents can be involved.

How is it developed?

South Columbus Elementary School welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding the Parent & Family Engagement Policy. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for next year. The Parent & Family Engagement Policy is available for parents to view and provide feedback throughout the year. South Columbus Elementary School also distributes a Title I Annual Survey to ask parents for suggestions on the Parent & Family Engagement Policy and the use of funds for parent involvement.

Who is it for?

All parents at South Columbus Elementary School are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in the Parent & Family Engagement Policy. South Columbus Elementary School will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with Limited English, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available?

At the beginning of the year, the Parent & Family Engagement Policy is included in the student handbook given out to all students. South Columbus Elementary School will have an available copy for parents at the Annual Open House & the Title I Annual Parent Meeting. Parents can also receive a copy of the Parent & Family Engagement Policy in the Parent Resource Room/Area, the front office of the school or on the school's website at any time.

What is Title I?

South Columbus Elementary School is identified as a Title I school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is a federal grant that was designed to ensure that all children receive a high quality education and reach grade level proficiency. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parent and family engagement.



District Goals

District Goals

- The Muscogee County School District will create an environment that focuses on tier 1 instruction while targeting individual student needs, leadership development, and customer service.

School's SMART Goal

- By May 2019, 100% of teachers will be trained on PBIS in the Classroom and 85% of teachers implementing these practices effectively with an emphasis on:
 - *Module 3-Consequence System for Academic Engagement*
 - *Module 4-Instructional Practices for Student Engagement*
- By May 2019, 100% of teachers in grades K-5 will receive training utilizing a balanced literacy framework that includes effective reading and writing instruction and 85% of teachers will successfully implement the strategies as measured by walk through/focus walk data.

What is a School Parent Compact

As part of the Parent & Family Engagement Policy, South Columbus Elementary School and our families will develop a School Parent Compact. A School Parent Compact for Achievement is an agreement that parents, students, and teachers develop together. It explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compact will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers. The School-Parent Compacts are kept in the Parent Resource Are/Room. A copy will also be kept with each child's teacher if parents need a copy.

Parent Involvement Program and Activities at South Columbus Elementary School

South Columbus Elementary will host the following events, workshops, and activities to build parent capacity and increase student academic achievement.

Title 1 Annual Parent Meeting

Learn about our Title I program including: Parent rights, Parent and Family Engagement Policy, School Improvement Plan, School-Parent Compact, and Parent and Family Engagement opportunities.

Open House

Meet your child's teachers, join PTA, find opportunities on how to get involved, complete surveys, and give feedback on the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School-Parent Compact.

Academic Parent Workshops

Provide parents with valuable information about academics and curriculum.

Smart Goals Workshops

Provide opportunities for parents to learn about the school's SMART GOALS and how they can support the school from home.

Georgia Milestones Assessment Workshops

Receive an overview of the state testing which measures how well students learn the knowledge and skills outlined in the state-adopted content standards while gaining knowledge on improving test scores.

Transition Workshops

Provide activities and information for incoming kindergartners and 5th graders going to middle school.

Parent and Family Engagement Activities

Participate in various Parent and Family Engagement opportunities. (ex: Grandparent's Day, Muffins for Mom, Donuts for Dads, Parent Mentors, etc.)

Parent Resource Room/Area

Check out and/or receive materials from the Parent Resource Room.



What is Parental Involvement?

South Columbus Elementary School believes that parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular two-way and meaningful communication involving student achievement.

South Columbus Elementary School believes:

- Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.
- Parents are full partners in their child's education and included in the decision-making of their child's education



Assistance to Central Region FSC

Effective parental involvement will not be an occasional event, such as a parent conference; rather it will be an on-going process. South Columbus Elementary is committed to helping our parents by maintaining a Parent Resource Area/Room for parents to check out materials to use at home with their child.

Please contact Mrs. Hurston White at (706)683-8833 or email at Hurston-white.Carmen.J@muscogee.k12.ga.us if you need assistance.

School Measures to Provide Required Assistance

South Columbus Elementary School will take the following measures to promote and support parents in the following ways:

- Ensure all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and activities are published in both English and Spanish, posted on the school's website, included in monthly newsletters, and posted on school's marquee
- Conduct staff development twice a year on parent involvement practices and effective strategies for staff to communicate and build partnerships with parents
- Partner with daycares to share information about parent engagement activities that will help prepare parents and their child for kindergarten.
- Share information in English and Spanish in the school's newsletter and on the website for parents to understand the schools' academic standards and assessment as well as ways parents can monitor their child's progress.
- Communicate with all families on a regular basis regarding school events, workshops and activities through Connect-Ed, marquee, newsletters, flyers, drive by stand, and website.
- Provide materials at conferences, workshops, and activities to help parents work with their child at home
- Create and maintain a Parent Resource Area/Room to allow parents opportunities to check-out materials to assist them with helping their child at home.
- Listen to parents to provide workshops and training that meet the needs of the parents and support parental involvement at the school
- Collaborate with the community and Partners in Education to increase participation and awareness of the school parental involvement plan and activities.



Parental Involvement Standards

South Columbus Elementary School and our parents have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnership as the school’s model in engaging parents, students, and the community.

The National PTA Standards are:

- 1. Welcoming All Families
- 2. Communicating Effectively
- 3. Supporting Student Success
- 4. Speaking Up for Every Child
- 5. Sharing Power
- 6. Collaborating with Community

School Community Team

South Columbus Elementary School invites all parents to join the School Community Team to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with the school, families, and community. The team will meet one time (spring) during the school year, but parents can share ideas and suggestions during all activities, workshops and events as well as through surveys. If you would like to learn more about the School Community team, please call **Mrs. Hurston-White** at **(706)683-8833**.

School Community Team

- Yes, I am excited about joining the School Community Team*
- Yes, please contact me so I can learn more about the School Community Team*
- Yes, this sounds like a great Idea, please keep me posted about future meetings*

Name_____

Child's Name and Grade_____

Address_____

Phone Number_____

Email Address_____

Parent Comments

All parents at South Columbus Elementary School are invited to give suggestions, comments, and feedback if there is any part of the Parent & Family Engagement Policy that you feel is not satisfactory with the students’ and the school’s goals for academic achievement. Please send your comments, feedback or suggestions to Mrs. Hurston-White, Family Service Coordinator.

Parent Name_____

Telephone Number_____

Comments or Suggestions
