

2023-2024
South Salem Elementary School
School Parent and Family Engagement
Policy



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Title I Information

South Salem Elementary School is a School-Wide Title I school. Title I is a part of the Elementary and Secondary Education (ESEA) Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), formally known as No Child Left Behind (2001). The Act provides financial assistance to state and local education agencies to meet the educational needs of children who may be at risk of failing the state's performance standards. This School-Wide program uses Title I funds to develop and maintain quality educational services in the core academic areas in order to raise academic achievement for all students at the school. Being a Title I school, our school must jointly develop with all parents a written parent and family engagement policy.



School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What it is?

South Salem Elementary School is identified as a Title I school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to the challenging State academic standards to improve teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support family engagement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with parents and family members a written parent and family engagement policy.

How is it developed?

A stakeholders' input meeting was held in the spring seeking input for this policy, our school-parent compact, the district's Parent & Family Engagement Policy, the parental involvement budget, our Title I Schoolwide Plan, ways to build staff capacity, and the Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan. South Salem Elementary School welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding the plan. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and post feedback throughout the year. We also distribute an annual survey online and distribute hard copies to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent involvement. Parents can also give feedback during our Stakeholder's Input meeting in the spring. Additionally, a Parent Involvement Survey is given annually and results of this survey are used in the revision of this plan. The policy is located in the front office and the parent resource section of the media center. All feedback gathered will be used to revise the plan for next school year.

Who is it for?

All students attending South Salem Elementary and their families, are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. South Salem Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available?

The policy is sent home to all parents along with the school parent compact at the beginning of the school year. It is available in both English and Spanish. In addition it is located on the South Salem Elementary school website in English and Spanish. A paper copy can also be provided to parents upon request.

Newton County Schools System Goals for Student Achievement

- ◆ Improve student mastery of standards
- ◆ Increase opportunities for students to demonstrate success beyond test scores
- ◆ Increase graduation rate

2023-2024 South Salem Elementary School's Goals

Goals: ELA

During the 23-24 school year, students will show an average gain equal to or greater than 3% on the post-test assessment in Reading as measured by the GMAS and FastBridge assessment.

Goals: Math

During the 23-24 school year, students will show an average gain equal to or greater than 3% on the post-test assessment in Math as measured by the GMAS and FastBridge assessment.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this policy, South Salem Elementary and our families will create a school parent compact, which is an agreement between parents, teachers, and students that explains how we will work together to make sure all students achieve grade-level standards. The compact will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers during the Stakeholders' Input meeting at the end of the school year. The school-parent compacts are available on our school's webpage and copies are also available in the school office.



Parent Engagement Program and Activities

Parents will be notified of meetings in a number of ways. The school sign will be updated to reflect meeting dates and times. Labels are provided for teachers to place in the student agenda. Information about Title I meetings will be included in the weekly newsletter, which is sent home in both hard copy and email format. Robo calls will be made to inform parents of programs and activities.

We will offer a flexible number of meetings with funds provided under Title I, as such services relate to parental involvement by helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in our Parent Involvement Plan. Parents are asked to call or email us if they need assistance with childcare or translation in order to participate in our programs.

Family Opportunities

July 27, 2023~ Open House 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Teachers will provide information about what parents can expect for the school year.



August 17, 2023 ~ Annual Parent Orientation 6:00 p.m.

SSE Staff will provide a Title I overview, how Title I funding is allocated, and an overview of the Title I Parent Involvement Plan and activities.

September 15, 2023~ Early Release for Parent Conferences

Teachers will be available for parent conferences and provide resources to promote student achievement.

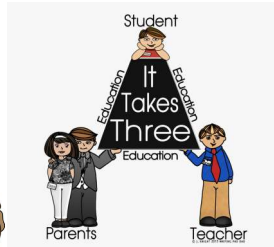
October 5, 2023 ~ Family Literacy Night – 6:00 p.m.

Students and parents will rotate through several grade specific reading focused activities. Each activity will focus an aspect of reading specific to their grade level.



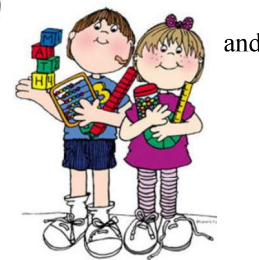
January 25, 2024 ~ Family Math Night – 6:00 p.m.

Students and parents will practice activities that increase math skills. Parents students will be given an opportunity to produce a math game related to grade level standards to enhance student achievement.



February 2, 2024~ Early Release for Parent Conferences

Teachers will be available for parent conferences and provide resources to promote student achievement.



March 14, 2024 ~ Annual Stakeholder's Input Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

Parents and stakeholders will provide feedback about the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Program and components

Parent Engagement Funds

Did you know that each LEA that receives more than \$500,000 in Title I, Part A funds, shall reserve at least one percent of its allocation to assist schools to carry out the parental engagement activities? Attend our Annual Stakeholder's Input Meeting to give your input on how we can use our funds to provide you with the tools, resources and strategies to help your child reach academic success.



Parent and Family Engagement

South Salem Elementary believes that parent involvement means the participation of parents in consistent, meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including:

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- That parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;

Ways that parents can help:

- Read to students
- Communicate with their child's teachers
- Practice skills as suggested/recommended.



Building Capacity

We will involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of schoolwide programs and the school parental involvement policy. We will involve parents in the planning and review of SSE's comprehensive schoolwide program plan. We will work to build relationships among staff, students, and parents in order to improve our planning.

- Provide information, in English or Spanish, to parents about the state academic standards, the state achievement standards, local and state assessments, Title I requirements and how to monitor your child's progress and work with teachers during parent workshops and conferences.
- Provide materials and training (including on the harms of copyright piracy) to help parents to work with their children to improve reading, math and test-taking skills during parent conferences and make and take workshops
- Bridge the gap between home and skill by providing professional learning and sharing tips to teachers to help coordinate and implement parent meetings that are linked to learning.
- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs with our in-house Georgia Pre-K program, home-school parents, by inviting students, parents, and teachers from those programs to have access to a video tour of the school in the efforts to facilitate transition from those programs into the school.
- Provide a parent resource area where parents can visit and checkout test-prep materials, math manipulatives, and reading resources to assist with learning at home.
- Send home communication in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. Interpreters will be used as available and as needed.



Parent Resource Area

Parent resources are available for check-out through a form located on our website. Parents will be able to find materials that will help them to understand the curriculum components. Parent resources are also provided during Title I meeting nights throughout the year. These will be subject-specific so that parents may assist their students.

Parent Resources



Continuous Communication

All informed, engaged, and supportive family plays an instrumental role in a student's academic success. The Newton County School System supports families in partnerships with schools, district, and the community in the quest of achieving academic success for all students. Here are some ways that we provide continuous communication with our parents to ensure that learning is continued beyond the school day.

Parent Connect Canvas Page

Friday Folders

School and Teacher Canvas Pages

Facebook/Twitter

School Website

REMIND

Contact Mrs. Whisnant or Ms. Howard,
Title I parent contacts, with any questions

Whisnant.mary@newton.k12.ga.us

Howard.kristie@newton.k12.ga.us

Measures of Effectiveness

- **Parent Meeting Evaluation**—to gather feedback from the parents to evaluate the effectiveness of the meeting and to gain insight on parent academic support for future meetings.
- **Parent Survey Data**—to gain insight on SSES effectiveness in meeting the needs of parents in various areas such as technology, parent workshop topics, and school climate so that we can create an environment that meets the needs of all parents and families.
- **Stakeholders' Input Meeting:** to give all stakeholders the opportunity to give input to build the effectiveness on the:
 - Parent and Family Engagement Policy-School and District
 - School-Parent Compact
 - Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP)
 - Title I Schoolwide Plan
 - Building Staff Capacity
 - Parent Involvement 1% Funding
- **Student Outcomes:** to access if strategies and activities, as outlined on the school parent compacts, are effectively impacting student achievement.
- **Multiple Opportunities for Input:** SSES will provide several opportunities for parents and families to give input on the effectiveness of the Title I Program. Parents can access our Title Schoolwide Plan, The Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and the School-Parent Compact on our school's website. These documents are also located in our parent resource room located at South Salem Elementary School.

