



**School Parent and Family Engagement Policy**  
***BYRON MIDDLE SCHOOL***  
***School Year 2020-2021***  
***April 27, 2020***

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Byron Middle School** receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

**Byron Middle School** agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.

- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school
- (C) 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
- (D) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA

## **DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

### **JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

**Byron Middle School** will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

- All Title I parents will be invited to participate in planning sessions to provide input on the School Improvement Plan (SIP), Title I Schoolwide Plan (SWP); Comprehensive Local Education Agency Improvement Plan (CLIP); Title I Budget and the 1% Parent Involvement Budget.
- Plans for meetings will be posted on the school website with copies made available at the BMS Front Office and Family Resource Center
- BMS will annually collect data from parents on how to update the Parent and Family Engagement Policy in order to meet changing needs of the school and parents
- Title I program evaluations will be conducted throughout the school year with opportunities for parents to provide input on Title I surveys at the BMS Annual Title I meeting, after parent workshops or student performances and during Title I planning meetings
- Handouts summarizing how Title I funds are used will be made available to stakeholders at the Annual Title I meeting per request

## **ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING**

We invite all parents to join us to learn more information about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts and parent requirements. Below are multiple ways Byron Middle School invites parents to Title I meetings.

- Monthly Parent Newsletter
- Emails
- Text messages from Remind
- School Website
- Flyers
- Electronic School Sign

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

**Byron Middle School** will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- Childcare assistance during workshops may be provided
- Children's corner in the Family Resource Center for students during Parent Workshops
- Title I Parent Input Meetings will be scheduled before or after school for parent accessibility
- Provide materials in Spanish and provide translating services as needed
- Newsletters, emails, text messages, flyers and social media will be utilized to assure parents receive information concerning Title I programs in a timely manner
- Parents are invited to school curriculum meetings where the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) and county wide written units in each area of study and school instructional resources, benchmark assessments, additional web-based instructional programs (Parent Portal and USA Test Prep) are discussed. Teachers will also make sure that parents know how to consistently communicate with teachers through student planners and email.

- Teachers and administration will be available for conferences during their planning periods or before and after school. Teachers and administrators can be reached by phone message or email and will return messages in a timely manner.

### **SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

**Byron Middle School** will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

- Title I revision meetings will be held throughout the year to provide parents the opportunity to voice their opinions on the content of the School-Parent Compacts
- Meetings will be scheduled before or after school for parent accessibility

### **RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

**Byron Middle School** will take the following actions to involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent by:

- All Title I parents will be invited to participate in planning sessions to provide input on the Title I Budget and how the 1% Parent Involvement Budget should be allocated for the school year.
- Plans for meetings will be posted on the school website with copies made available in the BMS Front Office and Family Resource Center
- Title I program evaluations will be conducted throughout the school year with opportunities for parents to provide input on Title I surveys at the BMS Annual Title I meeting, after parent workshops or student performances and during Title I planning meetings
- Handouts summarizing how Title I funds are used will be made available to stakeholders at the Annual Title I meeting per request

### **COORDINATION OF SERVICES**

**Byron Middle School** will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as family resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- Coordinating with local daycare to provide resources and training for parents
- Coordinating with Peach County High School to provide a 8<sup>th</sup> grade transition program
- Coordinating with Byron Elementary School and Kay Road to provide their 5<sup>th</sup> grade transition night to BMS

## **BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS**

**Byron Middle School** will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - The challenging State's academic standards
  - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
  - The requirements of Title I, Part A
  - How to monitor their child's progress
  - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child

- Parents will be given information about standards and assessments at the curriculum meetings, Title I information meetings, welcome back to school meetings and conferences
- Parents of students will also be invited to attend Georgia Milestones Informational Meetings where they will be given study guides and Georgia Milestones prep resources
- Parent workshops will be held throughout the year to assist parents in monitoring progress in Math, ELA, Science and Social Studies
- July 31, 2020-OPEN HOUSE
- August 2020-Annual Title I Parent Meeting
- September 2020-Math & ELA Night
- October 2020-Science & Social Studies Night
- January 2021-EL Parent Meeting
- February 2021-Cyber Safety Night
- March 2021-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Transition Night
- March 2021-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Transition Night
- March 2021-GA Milestone Night

## **BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

There will be training with teachers during faculty meetings or grade level meetings throughout the school year on effective ways to communicate with parents and family members.

- Teacher workshops
- Monthly Faculty Meetings
- Parent engagement seminars
- School-Parent Compacts
- Continuous Communication with Families
- The Power of Family-Teacher Partnerships

**Byron Middle School** will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- Parent Portal Workshop
- Math Workshop
- ELA Workshop
- Science Workshop
- Social Studies Workshop

# **DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**

## **POLICY COMPONENTS**

Indicate which of the following discretionary (optional) school parent and family engagement policy components the school will implement to improve family-school partnerships:

- Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- ★ Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- ★ Train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents.
- ★ To maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.
- ★ Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent and family engagement
  - Establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
  - Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.
  - Fort Valley State University and the IHelp Collaborative Partnership Program provides placement of FVSU student volunteers for to assist with various school events for field experiences
  - Peach County Family Connection provides collaborative informative meetings with community leaders and various organizations to promote the participation in events that support Peach County
    - Teacher conferences
    - Family engagement seminars
    - Provide computers for parents/guardian's use in Family Resource Center
    - Notify parents/guardians through multiple ways regarding workshops and school activities.
      1. Newsletters
      2. BMS Website
      3. Emails
      4. Texts
      5. Social Media
      6. Handouts
      7. Electronic School Sign

