

Plan for Shared Student Achievement

Union County Elementary School

Parental & Family Engagement Policy

2017-2018 School Year

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<http://elementary.ucschools.org>

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What is it?

This is a plan that describes how Union County Elementary School will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Union County Elementary School values the contributions and involvement of families to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Union County Elementary School staff will support family engagement and how families can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it developed?

In the spring of each year all families are invited to attend Parent Review/Input Meetings, at flexible times, to assist in developing, planning, and reviewing the Schoolwide Title I Program Plan/Budget, the School-Family Compact, the Parental & Family Engagement Policy, and the use of parent involvement funds. Families are notified of the meetings via letters (sent home with students in communication folders), posters, the local newspaper, the school website, social media, the school system's marquee sign, an automated phone call and a written reminder in student agendas. The documents are posted on the school website for families to view and submit feedback throughout the year. The school's Parent Engagement Liaison is available to meet with families, at their request, throughout the day or after school. Annual family surveys are conducted to get input on the plan/budget. Families can also give feedback at several family events throughout the school year.

Who is it for?

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

Where is it available?

The plan will be shared at Open House. It will be posted on the school website and in the front office.

Union County Elementary School's Engagement Activities are planned to:

- ❖ provide assistance to families in understanding state standards, local and state assessments, Title I requirements, and how to monitor student progress and work with educators
- ❖ present materials and training to help families work with their children to improve their children's achievement
- ❖ accommodate families' busy schedules by providing meetings at various times and being accessible on line
- ❖ offer transportation to events and/or home visits, if needed

Union County Elementary
School Goals

- Improve students' writing scores as measured by the Georgia Milestones
- Increase family communication and provide an environment where families are included in the learning process

****Family Engagement Activities****

Union County Elementary School will host the following events to support a partnership with families to improve student academic achievement.

Open House

Third Grade – August 29, 6:00 p.m.

Fourth Grade – August 24, 5:00 p.m.

Fifth Grade – August 28, 6:00 p.m.

Annual Title I Parent Meetings

Third Grade – August 29, 5:30 p.m.

Fourth Grade – August 24, 4:30 p.m.

Fifth Grade – August 28, 5:30 p.m.

Parent-Teacher Conferences – September 25

Research Support 101 – September 12

8:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., or 6:00 p.m.

Fourth and Fifth Grades

Cyber Safety Event (on-line) – October 3, 9:00 p.m.

Winter Student Showcase - December

Spring Student Showcase - May

Parent Review/Input Meetings – May

Assist in developing the schoolwide plan, parental involvement plan, parental involvement policy/budget, and school-family compacts

FAMILY COMMUNICATION

Project Resource Center

Call Becky Dyer (# below) to schedule time to work with your child to complete projects for school - supplies provided!

If you are interested in volunteering contact Becky Dyer, UCS Parent Engagement Liaison, at bdyer@ucschools.org or (706)745-9615, ext. 4424.

What is Title I?

Union County Elementary is identified as a Title I school.

Title I is the largest federally funded program for elementary, middle and high schools.

Through Title I, money is given to school districts around the country based on the number of low-income families in each district.

The focus of the Title I Program is on helping all students meet the same high standards.

All Title I schools must jointly develop with all parents a written parental involvement policy.

- Families may contact their child's teacher directly via e-mail or they may call the front office (706-745-9615) and leave a message. Teacher e-mails are accessible on the school website. (<http://elementary.ucschools.org>).
- Families will receive information about students' performance on basic math and reading measures three times each year. The notifications include explanations of each assessment, the students' scores, target scores, the interventions being provided at school, and suggested activities for home to improve students' achievement. Families are invited to schedule meetings to further discuss strategies for improvement and participate in developing plans that best meet the students' needs.
- In addition to parent-teacher conferences, families have opportunities to participate in decisions relating to their child's education in Annual Review and 504 meetings.
- Families will be informed throughout the school year of ways to monitor their child's progress, including, but not limited to, using PowerSchool, progress reports, and letters explaining benchmark results.
- Families will be kept up to date on what their children are learning, how they are progressing, and how to work with the school via letters, newsletters, teacher web pages, agendas, communication folders, conferences, phone calls, e-mail and family-school events throughout the school year.
- As practical, the school will provide information in a parent's native language upon request. The ESOL Coordinator is available to attend meetings as needed.
- Staff will receive training on how to reach out to, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners in order to build strong ties between families and the school.

Transition Support

All second grade students and their families will be invited to an orientation with third grade teachers and parents. All fifth grade students and their families will be invited to an orientation at the middle school. The Union County Enrichment Center After School Program will offer academic support and transportation for students.