



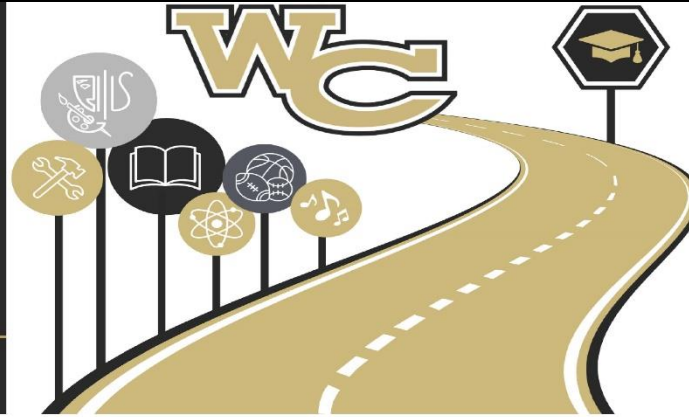
A Parent's Guide to Title 1

Revision Date: August 19, 2025

Washington County Public Schools

Golden Pathways to
Achieving Excellence

2025-2026



Student Achievement

- Every Student can Succeed
- Rigorous Instruction
- Personalized Support
- High Expectations for Learning

- Increase Efficiency
- Support Transparency
- Accountability for All

Operational Effectiveness

High-Quality Workforce

- Passion & Professionalism
- Recruiting & Development
- Retaining Top Talent

- Strengthen Trust
- Improve Communication
- Create True Partnerships

Family & Stakeholder Engagement

Performance Culture & Positive Climate

- Foundation for Learning
- Clear Expectations & Support
- Respected & Safe

Golden Pathways to *Achieving Excellence*



Teaching
Transparency
Trust

2025-2026
Revised 06/11/2025
501 Industrial Drive
Sandersville, GA 31082
<https://www.washingtoncountyschools.org/>
(478) 552-3981

Washington County School District Parent and Family Engagement Policy

What is Family Engagement?



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

- (A) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- (B) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.
- (C) 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.
- (D) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).



About the Parent and Family Engagement Policy

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Washington County School District (WCSD) has developed this parent and family engagement policy that establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's Title I

schools. This plan will describe WCSD's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity in its Title I schools to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district and student academic achievement goals.

When schools, families, and communities work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer and enjoy school more. Title I, Part A provides for substantive family engagement at every level of the program, such as in the development and implementation of the district and school plan, and in carrying out the district and school improvement provisions. Section 1116 of ESSA contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools and school systems to involve parents and family members in their children's education. The WCSD will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of federal law and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact.



Jointly Developed

During the annual State of the District meeting in May 2024, all parents were invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve this district parent and family engagement policy for the 2024- 2025 school year. The district sent an email to all parents informing them about this meeting and posted an announcement on the school district website.

During this meeting, parents also reviewed and discussed the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP), each school level School Improvement Plan, and the input data collected from. Additionally, each Title I school used its Parent Advisory Council to review the district parent and family engagement policy before the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

Upon final revision, the district parent and family engagement policy was incorporated into the CLIP, which was submitted to the state. Parents are welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the policy at any time on the school district website or by submitting written comments to your child's school. All feedback received by June 2024 was considered for revisions to this policy.

The district's plan to distribute this policy is to post it on district and school websites and in parent resource centers, disseminate it during the annual Title I school meetings in the fall, and email the link to all parents in a format and language they can understand.

Strengthening Our School

This year, the district family engagement coordinator (FEC) will provide technical assistance and support to all Title I schools to ensure family engagement requirements are being satisfied and that family engagement strategies and activities are being implemented. Title I schools will receive notifications and resources from the district and the FEC to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the district and the FEC will hold monthly meetings and trainings with its Title I schools' principals and school FECs to review family engagement plans and activities.

Additionally, the district will convene a summit in March for principals and FECs to review parent and family engagement requirements and plan opportunities for family engagement activities and meetings for the remainder of the school year.

Reservation of Funds

The WCSD will reserve ONE percent from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in 2024-2025 to carry out the parent and family engagement requirements listed in this policy and as described in federal law. Furthermore, the WCSD will distribute 90 percent of the amount reserved to Title I schools to support their local-level family engagement programs and activities. The district will provide clear guidance and communication to assist each Title I school in developing an adequate family engagement budget that addresses their needs assessment and parent recommendations. Each Title I school utilized the annual parent input survey for parents to provide suggestions on how these family engagement funds could be used in the upcoming year at the district and school-level. Evaluation of the findings from this survey were reviewed by the district to determine areas of need for the upcoming school year and consider changes to the family engagement budget. If you have suggestions, please contact the FEC in the district office.



Opportunities for Meaningful Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents, family members, and community partners are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All parents of students eligible to receive Title I services are invited to attend two meeting opportunities described in this section to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our student academic achievement goals.

State of the District Revision Meeting ~ June 10-11, 2025

All parents are welcome to hear the latest updates from the Washington County School District as well as review and provide input into the district parent and family engagement policy and the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan for the 2024-2025 school year. Notices regarding this meeting will be emailed to all parents in advance of the meeting. The district will also communicate information regarding this meeting on the school district website.

School Improvement Forums ~ August 2025

During this month, each Title I school will host a forum for parents and family members to participate in roundtable discussions to review the schoolwide plan, the school's parent and family engagement policies as well as provide input on the family engagement budget and topics for school staff training. Each Title I school will send invitations home as well as email and text parents to notify them about the date and time of the forum. Information regarding the School Improvement Forum will also be made available on the school websites.

Input on the use of Title I funds to support family engagement programs may also be provided through the annual Title I Family Engagement survey. The survey will contain questions related to the family engagement budget and school staff training for parents to provide their comments.

Unable to attend these meetings? Please visit

<https://www.washingtoncountyschoolsga.org/>

to review the meeting documents and minutes and leave your input.



Scan the code with your smartphone or tablet to access family engagement information from the WCSD website.



Building Capacity

The WCSD will build partnerships between its Title I Schools, families, and community with the goal of developing mutual support for student achievement. To develop capacity for this support, the WCSD will implement a variety of family and community engagement initiatives.

Of Parents - The WCSD will provide families with information about the overall Title I program and its requirements. The district works with its Title I schools to help families understand academic expectations for student learning and progress.

Vital information will be shared with Title I schools and parents on the Georgia Standards of Excellence, state and local academic assessment including the Georgia Milestone, as well as the required assessment for students including alternative forms of assessment. The dates and location for these workshops will be posted on the district's parent webpage as well as school's websites. Parents will also receive workshop notification via flyers, email, text, ParentSquare, and Infinite Campus.

In addition, each Title I school's website contains resources and materials such as parent guides, study guides, and practice assessments for at-home learning. Hard copies of these materials will be made available by request for parents who may have limited internet access, as well as those in need of translated versions.

The district also assists parents in understanding use of its online student information system and other digital resources, including the harms of copyright piracy, through its technology specialists. Notifications about these opportunities will be posted on the district website and shared through school messaging systems, newsletters, and social media postings.

The WCSD will establish a Family Engagement Leadership Team composed of parent representatives from each Title I school to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement as well as planning and developing relevant district level parenting trainings and events and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the important of parent and family engagement. Community members and business leaders will also be invited to serve on this council. The district will encourage collaboration between all stakeholders by posting meeting information on the district's website.

The WCSD will coordinate and integrate the district's family engagement programs under this part with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs such as, the local preschool program and other federal and state funded preschool programs in the district. The district will invite faculty and staff from those programs to attend planning meetings focused on family engagement activities. In the spring, schools will host Kindergarten Ready days, Middle and High School Transition Nights, and College and Career Fairs so parents may receive information to help prepare them and their children for the next life stage.

Of School Staff - The WCSD will conduct four trainings during the school year for principals and school FECs to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and the community. These trainings will be redelivered to the faculty and staff of Title I schools. The WCSD will also host a training for appropriate school staff and faculty that will focus on creating welcoming environments.

To ensure that information related to district, school, parent programs, and activities is available to all parents, each Title I school is required to send home and post online information for parents and family members in an understandable language and uniform format. At the beginning of the year, school staff will be trained on parent notifications and resources to be sent home in parents' preferred language, where applicable, and providing interpreters at parent events and meetings. Information posted on the district website will be translated to the extent practicable. The district will also utilize school phone call systems, district and school websites, local news media, and social media to post information for parents.

Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, the WCSD will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy and the family engagement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I schools through an annual parent survey and the School Improvement Forums.

Beginning in April, each Title I school will send home a survey and email a link to the survey for parents to provide valuable feedback regarding the parent and family engagement activities and programs. These surveys will also be posted on the district and school annual survey, each Title I school will also use the School Improvement Forum to facilitate group discussions to discuss the needs parents of children eligible to receive Title I services to design strategies for more effective family engagement.

The WCSD will use the findings from the school forums and the survey results to design strategies to improve effective family engagement, to remove possible barriers to parent participation, and to revise its parent and family engagement policies.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the district family engagement coordinator will communicate and collaborate with the Office for Student Support Services to ensure full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.

Mark Your Calendars

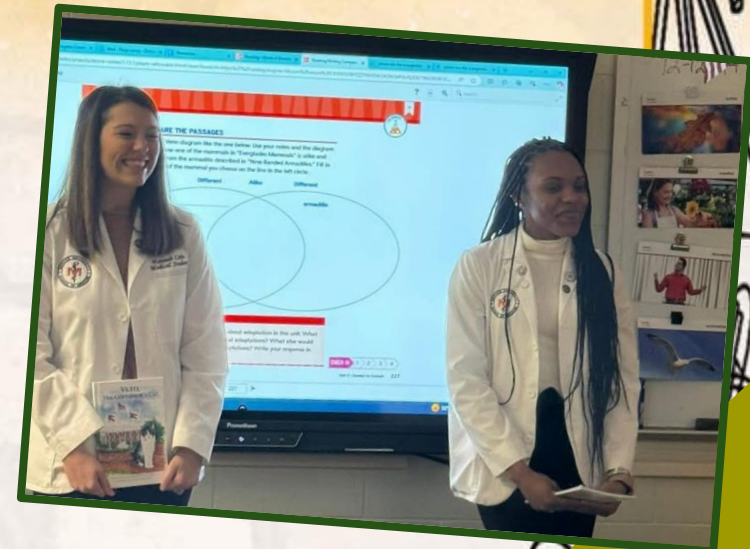
For Parents	For Schools
Parent Surveys August, 2025 and April, 2026	Welcoming Schools Training July, 2025 - Schools
School Improvement Forum August, 2025	Principal and FEC Meetings Wednesday of every month
State of the District Revision June, 2026 - County Board Office	

Adoption

This districtwide parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of parents, school, and district personnel at the annual State of the District meeting.

This policy was adopted by the Washington County School District on June 13, 2024 and will be in effect for the 2024-2025 academic school year. The school district will distribute this policy in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children before or during the first week of fall semester.





Family Engagement Coordinators

Our Family Engagement Coordinators are:

***Dr. Felicia Evans-Moss - District-Level**

fevans-moss@washington.k12.ga.us and 478-552-3891, extension 3213
Family Resource Center – Room 606 – T. J. Elder Middle School

***Ms. Beth Nobles - Ridge Road Elementary**

beth.nobles@washington.k12.ga.us and 478-552-2245 ext. 4805

***Dr. Felisa Cooper - Ridge Road Primary**

felisa.cooper@washington.k12.ga.us and 478-552- 6047 ext. 5053

We are available to assist families in a variety of ways from finding resources, connecting with teachers and administrators, navigating Infinite Campus and providing opportunities for you to learn how to help your student at home.

Parent Resource Center

Visit the Parent Resource Center to get pamphlets, brochures, and other resource materials to use at home with your child, Monday – Friday, during school hours or scheduled events.



As Coordinators, Our Pledge to our Parents and Families

The Washington County School District will take the following measures to promote and support parents as equal partners in their child's education. In order to reach our goal of the highest quality of student achievement, and pledges to support our students and their families as the foundation of the school. We will:

- ✓ Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is published and posted on the website or on social media.
- ✓ Provide training for staff on the value and contribution of parents, on ways to improve communication, on ideas to build strong partnerships with families, on providing information in a friendly format and on responding to parent requests four times during the school year.
- ✓ Partner with college and career ready organizations and early learning centers to provide resources to help prepare families and their students for successful school transitioning.
- ✓ Share information/materials related to school and parent engagement activities, meetings and workshops.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school-wide events through school messenger, social media, school website, newsletters and flyers.
- ✓ Work with parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.
- ✓ Provide information for parents to better understand Georgia Standards of Excellence and assessments for all grade levels.
- ✓ Collaborate with stakeholders and community/business leaders to increase awareness of family and community engagement programs.
- ✓ Connect families to classes or support groups to help further enhance our parent's various educational levels.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents and family members after academic events in order to respond to parents' request for additional support for engagement activities.



**RIDGE ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL'S ENGAGEMENT
POLICY AND PARENT-SCHOOL COMPACT**

PRINCIPAL, MRS. LYN POOLE

lpool@washington.k12.ga.us

and

478-552-6047 ext.4403

WANT TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER AT EITHER OF THE TITLE I SCHOOLS?

Contact Dr. Felicia Evans-Moss and ask how.

fevans-moss@washington.k12.ga.us OR 478-552-3891, extension 3213



Ridge Road Primary School

Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Plan 2025-2026

*Ridge Road Primary School
Lynn Pool, Principal
285 Ridge Road School Drive
Sandersville, GA 31082
(478) 552-6047*

<https://sites.google.com/wacoschools.org/ridgeroadprimaryschool/home>

What is Title I?

Ridge Road Primary 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 develop a written parent and family engagement policy in collaboration with parents and family members.

RIDGE ROAD PRIMARY
Golden Hawks

SCHOOL PLAN FOR SHARED STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

What is it?

This is a plan/policy that describes how Ridge Road Primary provides opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. RRP values the contributions and involvement of parents and family members to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that RRP supports family engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it revised?

Ridge Road Primary invites all parents to attend our Annual Policy Revision/Input meeting in August to review and revise the Parent and Family Engagement policy, as well as the school-wide improvement plan, our school-parent compact, and the family engagement budget. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year through the Parent Feedback form and/or written communication. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We conduct an annual survey online and by email to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family engagement. Parents and family members can also give feedback during quarterly parent meetings and activities throughout the school year.

Who is it for?

All students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Ridge Road Primary works to ensure full opportunities for participation of families with limited English proficiency, as well as families with disabilities.

Where is it available?

At the beginning of the year, a copy of the Parent & Family Engagement plan is given to all students. During our Annual Title I Open House meeting, the plan is given out along with the School-Parent Compact. Letters are sent home with all students before the scheduled meeting, and notifications are posted on the school website and social media outlets. Additionally, the plan is made available at any time throughout the year in the Parent Resource Center.

2025-2026 School Goals

1. For the 2025-2026 school year, there will be a 33% increase for I-ready reading diagnostic on grade level or above.
2. For the 2025-2026 school year, there will 33% increase for I-ready math diagnostic on grade level or above
3. For the 2025-2026 school year, there will be a 15% increase for Writescore.
4. For the 2025-2026 school year, there will be a 5% increase of SWD will score on grade level in reading.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACTS

2025-2026

As part of this plan, Ridge Road Primary and our families develop a School-Parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students develop that explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compacts are reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers during the Annual Parent Involvement LEA Policy revision meeting and the end-of-year School Forum. The school-parent compacts are distributed to all families at the beginning of each school year during the School Open House / Title I meeting and additional copies are available upon request.

Let's Get Together!

Ridge Road Primary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. More information about each event will be sent home to all families one month in advance and notices will be posted on the school website and the Family Forum email.

Annual Title I Meeting– September 2025

We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the school-wide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements. Invitations will be emailed and posted in the school newsletter, social media, and local media.

Family Involvement Events-Each Semester

Planned fun-filled events celebrating our families; these activities are the highlight of the year for our students, families, and staff!

P.A.T.H.S. and School Council Meetings – Quarterly

Parent, family members, and school staff team meetings are held quarterly. All parents are welcome to join the P.A.T.H.S. committee to help build partnerships between school, families, and the community. Parents have the opportunity to formulate suggestions and participate in decision-making regarding their child's education.

Parent Academic Visits – Each Semester

Parents and families have the opportunity to explore the academic skills currently being taught in their child's classroom. Teachers lead hands-on activities and share strategies for learning with reading, math and science.

Parent-Teacher and Student Conferences

Scheduled updates on your child's progress are held after each report card period. Conferences may be requested by parents at any time throughout the school year.

Annual Policy Revision Meeting – Spring 2026

Connect with the school and community to build a better school and review school plans.

Head Start Transition Program – April 2026

A program coordinated with Head Start to provide information and resources for families and assist in successful student transitions to school.

School Forum (End-of-Year P.A.T.H.S. and School Council) – Spring 2026 A forum for parents and family members to participate in open group discussions with the principal and staff regarding the school-wide plan, parent and family engagement policy, school-parent compacts, and the family engagement budget.

Parent Resource Center

RRP is proud to offer free learning materials for our students and families. The Parent Resource Center offers a variety of math, reading, and writing workbooks, state standards by grade level, leveled reader books, and much more.

Come Check it Out!

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Ridge Road Primary believes that Family Engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities.

This includes ensuring:

- 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 and
- The carrying out of other activities as described in this plan.

Building a Strong Partnership Together

Ridge Road Primary takes the following measures to promote and support parents and family members as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals.

We will:

- ✓ Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish, posted on the school website and social media, pushed out via Parent Square, included in written communication in weekly folders, and delivered via the Family Forum email group.
- ✓ Provide training for staff during their planning period on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement with reading and math activities for our students outside of the classroom. Staff will also share their best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- ✓ Partner with Early childhood programs, Head Start, Babies Can't Wait, local businesses and community stakeholders, and/or other programs (as applicable) to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.
- ✓ Share information in English and Spanish on the school website and in the school newsletter for parents to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school-wide events and activities, through written notifications, Parent Square, social media, newspaper ads, and flyers.
- ✓ Work with our parents to develop relevant training and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement in all areas.
- ✓ Use our Parents and Teachers Helping Students (P.A.T.H.S.) School Council committee to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement policy.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents and family members at all events, place the Parent Feedback form in front office and Parent Resource Center, and conduct activity surveys in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.



**RIDGE ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT POLICY AND SCHOOL-PARENT
COMPACT**

PRINCIPAL, MRS. CHRISTINE MCPHERSON

cmcpherson@washington.k12.ga.us

and

478-552-2245 ext. 4802



RIDGE ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY AND PLAN FOR SHARED STUDENT SUCCESS

2025-2026

**RIDGE ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MRS. CHRISTINE MCPHERSON, PRINCIPAL
285 RIDGE ROAD
(478) 552-2245**

Plan Revised July 2025

What Is Title I?

Ridge Road Elementary 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.

SCHOOL PLAN FOR SHARED STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

What is it?

A plan that describes how Ridge Road Elementary will provide opportunities to improve family engagement and support student learning at school and at home. Ridge Road Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents and family in establishing an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement.

Who is it for?

All students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Ridge Road Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, and of migratory children.

How is it revised?

Ridge Road Elementary School invites all parents during the school year to review and revise this parent and family engagement policy, as well as the school wide plan, our school-parent compact. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and submit feedback. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. Parents and family members can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities during the school year including our PTSOS Parent Nights and school visits.

Where is it available?

At the beginning of the year, we will provide this plan to all parents in August at the Title 1 Parent Meeting. The plan will also be posted on the school website and social media. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Center in the Ridge Road Elementary School Front Office.

2025-2026 RRES GOALS

Goal 1 The school will provide parents with the opportunity to review and provide input in the Parent- Teacher-Student Compact, the Parental Involvement and Family Engagement Policy, and the School Improvement Policy at the school level.

Goal 2 Families will receive timely information through conferences, meetings, and written communication concerning: Title I / ESSA program, school performance profiles, individual student assessment results, and an interpretation of those results, a description and explanation of the school's curriculum, assessments used to measure students' progress and proficiency levels that students are expected to meet, opportunities for regularly scheduled meetings to offer suggestions, share experiences with other parents, and participate in decision-making concerning the education of Ridge Road Elementary School students, when appropriate.

Goal 3 Ridge Road Elementary School will provide parents assistance in the following areas: Georgia Standards, the school improvement process, state and local assessments, the requirements of Title 1, Part A, and ways families can participate in the decisions relating to the education of their children.

Goal 4 Ridge Road Elementary School will continually attempt to build partnerships between home, community, and school.

Goal 5 Ridge Road Elementary will provide parents and students with Social and Emotional Learning opportunities.

Let's Get Together!

Ridge Road Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement:

- Annual Title I Meeting –September 2025 Discussion about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the school wide plan, and the school-parent compact
- Student Data Meetings held at progress report time for students failing courses
- PTSOS Parent Nights-Held at the end of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Nine Weeks Grading period Meetings to discuss report card grades with your child's teachers and provide updates on curriculum, instruction, and assessment information such as Georgia Performance Standards for math, reading, writing, and the Georgia Milestones Assessments
- Parent Engagement Content Area Nights - Learn with your child the academic expectations in the content areas
- Parent-Teacher and Student Conferences –scheduled during the school year Scheduled opportunities to meet on your child's progress reports
- Parents and Teachers Supporting Our Students (PTSOS) Steering Committee- Meets monthly A forum for parents/guardians to participate in roundtable discussions with the principal concerning the school wide plan, parent and family engagement policy, school-parent compact and school resource needs.

Parents and students will be invited to webinars and classes throughout the year with an emphasis on reconnecting, emotional well-being and college and career readiness.



PARENT RESOURCE CENTER

THE PARENT RESOURCE CENTER IS LOCATED IN
THE MAIN LOBBY, OUTSIDE OF THE OFFICE.

Parent and Family Engagement

A Ridge Road Elementary believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- Those 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.
- The carrying out of other activities as described in this plan.

Ridge Road Elementary is Branching out!

Ridge Road Elementary will take the following measures to promote and support parents and family members as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will :

- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish, posted on the school website, and included in the digital school newsletter for all families.
- Provide training for staff on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement with reading and math activities for our students outside of the classroom. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- Partner with Ridge Road Primary School, T. J. Elder Middle School to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning each spring.
- Share information in English and Spanish in the school newsletter for parents to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, through weekly newsletter, social media, flyers and School website.
- Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.
- Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- Use our PTSOS Committee to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement policy.
- Collect feedback from parents and family members at all events and house a suggestion form and suggestion box in the RRES Front Office in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.
- Partner with community agencies to provide student access to resources such as vision/hearing screenings, flu immunizations, and dental care.

Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Ridge Road Elementary has adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community. These standards are:

- Welcoming All Families
- Communicating Effectively
- Supporting Student Success
- Speaking Up for Every Child
- Sharing Power
- Collaborating with Community

School Community Team

Ridge Road Elementary invites parents to join the PTSOS Steering Committee to share ideas and ways to involve other parents and family members to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet each nine weeks, but parents and family members can also submit their ideas or suggestions at any school activities and meetings. If you would like to learn more about the PTSOS Committee, please contact Mrs. McPherson at (478)552-2245 ext. 4802 or complete this form and leave it in the RRES Front Office.

PTSOS Steering Committee

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the PTSOS Steering Committee. Please contact me so I can learn more in joining the PTSOS Steering Committee. Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

● Name: _____

● Child's Name and Grade: _____

● Address: _____

● Phone Number: _____

● Email address: _____

Share Your Thoughts

- We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this policy that you feel is not satisfactory with the students' and the school's goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the Main Office:

● Name: (optional) _____

● Telephone Number: (optional) _____

● Email Address: _____



**T. J.ELDER MIDDLE SCHOOL'S FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
POLICY AND SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

PRINCIPAL, Dr. Darryl Gilbert

darryl.gilbert@washington.k12.ga.us

and

478-552-2007 ext. 4611

T. J. Elder Middle School

Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success

2025–2026 School Year

*T. J. Elder Middle School
Dr. Darryl Gilbert, Principal
902 Linton Road
(478) 552-2007*

Plan Revised 07/14/2025

What is Title I?

T.J. Elder Middle 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 develop a written engagement policy jointly with parents and family members.

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it?

This is a plan that describes how T. J. Elder Middle School provides opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. T. J. Elder Middle School values the contributions and involvement of parents and family members to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that T. J. Elder Middle School will support family engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it revised?

This plan allows opportunity for feedback from all parents over the course of the year during sessions such as our PATSS meetings, School Council meetings, and feedback from parent activity nights. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We also distribute an annual survey online for suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family engagement.

Who is it for?

All students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. T. J. Elder Middle School will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, and of migratory children.

Where is it available?

At the beginning of the year, the plan is sent home with all students as part of their beginning of the year packets. As a reminder, we will provide this plan to all parents in August during the scheduled Open House event. The plan will also be posted on the school website and social media. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Area at the school.

2025-2026 School Goals

EMS will partner with parents to increase student engagement and student success.

- During the 2025-2026 school year, the percentage of beginning learners on the ELA GMAS will decrease by at least 5%.
- During the 2025-2026 school year, the percentage of beginning learners on the Math GMAS will decrease by at least 5%.
- During the 2025-2026 school year, at least 10% of students will increase to the next achievement band between each pre and post Writable Assessment.
- During the 2025-2026 school year, there will be at least a 5% decrease in school-wide discipline referrals.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, T. J. Elder Middle School and our families developed a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop that explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers during the Community Cares event at the School Improvement Forum. The school-parent compacts also are shared with parents during parent-teacher conferences and kept with each child's teacher if parents need another copy.

Let's Get Together!

EMS will host the following events to build the capacity for strong family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

Parent Involvement Activity – July 31, 2025 (2:00 pm - 6:00 pm)

"Open House/Parent Fair" - community Stakeholders will share services available to families in our community such as those provided by the Boys and Girls Club, Recreation Department, Extension agency, Health Department, Family Connections, Teen Savings, etc...

Progress Reports, Report Cards, and Parent Afternoons for 2025-2026

First Progress Report <i>Grade Cut Off</i>	Tuesday, September 2, 2025 <i>Monday, September 1, 2025</i>
Parent Conference Afternoon	Thursday, September 4, 2025 4:30 - 6:00
First Nine Weeks Report Card <i>Grade Cut Off</i>	Tuesday, October 7, 2025 <i>Thursday, October 2, 2025</i>
Second Progress Report <i>Grade Cut Off</i>	Tuesday, November 11, 2025 <i>Monday, November 10, 2025</i>
Parent Conference Afternoon	Thursday, November 13, 2025 4:30 - 6:00
Second Nine Weeks Report Cards <i>Grade Cut Off</i>	Tuesday, January 6, 2026 <i>Friday, December 19, 2025</i>
Third Progress Report <i>Grade Cut Off</i>	Tuesday, February 10, 2026 <i>Monday, February 9, 2026</i>
Parent Conference Afternoon	Thursday, February 12, 2026 4:30 - 6:00
Third Nine Weeks Report Card <i>Grade Cut Off</i>	Tuesday, March 17, 2026 <i>Friday, March 13, 2026</i>
Fourth Progress Report <i>Grade Cut Off</i>	Tuesday, April 21, 2026 <i>Monday, April 20, 2026</i>
Parent Conference Afternoon	Thursday, April 23, 2026 4:30 - 6:00
Fourth Nine Weeks Report Card	Friday, May 22, 2026

T.J. Elder Middle School Mission Statement: Educating Students to Succeed in a Global Society

T.J. Elder Middle School is Branching Out!

Parent and Family Engagement

T. J. Elder Middle School believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities and ensuring:

- Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- 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.

T. J. Elder Middle School is committed to helping our parents and families attend the family activities listed in this policy. Please call Dr. Felicia Evans-Moss, Family Engagement Coordinator (478) 552-3981, extension 3213 or email (fevans-moss@washington.k12.ga.us) if you need assistance.

EMS will take the following measures to promote and support parents and family members as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will:

- ✓ Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish, posted on the school website, and included in the monthly school newsletter for all families.
- ✓ Provide monthly trainings for staff during their planning periods on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement with reading and math activities for our students outside of the classroom. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- ✓ Partner with Ridge Road Elementary School and Washington County High School to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning in the Spring.
- ✓ Share information in English and Spanish on the school website and in the school newsletter for parents to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, through phone messages, social media, and flyers.
- ✓ Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- ✓ Use our Partners in Education and School-Community Team to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement policy.
- ✓ Offer literacy and computer classes for parents and family members to help further enhance their various educational levels.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents and family members at all events, place input cards around the building and a post suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.

T.J. Elder Middle School Mission Statement: **Educating Students to Succeed in a Global Society**

Parent and Family Engagement Standards

T.J. Elder Middle School and our parents have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community. These 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

T.J. Elder Middle School invites all parents to join the School Community Team to share ideas and ways to involve other parents and family members to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet four times during the school year, but parents and family members can also submit their ideas or suggestions at any school activities and meetings, as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the School Community Team, please contact the principal at (478) 552-2007 or complete the interest form and leave it in the Main Office.

School Community Team

- ☐ Yes, I am interested and wish to join the School Community Team.
- ☐ Please contact me so I can learn more in joining the School Community Team.
- ☐ Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Please return to the main office at Elder Middle School.

Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this policy that you feel is not supportive of the school's goals for academic achievement or of our students, please provide your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the Main Office:

Name: (optional): _____

Telephone Number: (optional) _____

Title I Handbook Acknowledgement

_____ Scho
ol

Dear Families and Students,

For the 2025-2026 school year, our Title I Handbook is/will be available for your viewing on our school website at:

<https://www.washingtoncountyschoolsga.org/>
under the family engagement tab.

The purpose of the Title I Handbook is to provide our families with detailed information regarding what it means to be a part of a Title I school. The handbook is also a critical component in helping to build a strong relationship between home and school. The documents included in the handbook are the Parent's Guide to Title I, The Connection (Family Engagement Plan and Grade Level Compact), Right to Know Teacher and Paraprofessional Qualifications, Copyright Piracy Awareness and the "PBIS" Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Matrix at Ridge Road Elementary School.

If you prefer a printed copy of the handbook, please indicate in the space provided and we will gladly provide one for you.

Additionally, we ask that you sign and date acknowledging access and agreement to the School- Family Compact then return the form to your child's school.

Please choose one of the following options:

___ I will access the Title I Handbook on the school's webpage.

___ I do not wish to receive a printed copy.

Required Signatures:

School Representative Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student Name (print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

To be completed by school personnel only

Hard copy of Title I Handbook given to

Student Name

Date _____ By: _____
