

# Ephesus Elementary School

## *Parental Involvement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success 2017-18 School Year*

*Ephesus Elementary School  
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Plan Revised*

### **What is Title I?**

Ephesus Elementary is identified as a Title I school as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards to reinforce and enhance efforts 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 parental involvement. All Title I schools must jointly develop, with parents and other stakeholders, a written Family Engagement Plan.

## **School Plan for Shared Student Achievement**

### **What is it?**

This is a plan that describes how Ephesus Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Ephesus Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Ephesus Elementary will support parent 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?**

Ephesus Elementary School invited all parents to attend our spring stakeholder meeting to review and revise the current family engagement plan, schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact. Each parent was also invited and encouraged to participate in a parent survey. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding these documents are welcome at any point during the school year. The plan is posted on our school web site for parents to view, a paper copy is also sent home with each child.

### **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. Ephesus 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 Family Engagement Plan will be printed and sent home with each student after final revisions and approval from System Title I director, System Leadership team, School Leadership team, and Family Engagement team. The plan can be viewed on the school website and extra copies will be placed in front office.



## **2017–18 District Goals**

- \*Attaining High Student Achievement
- \*Ensure stakeholder engagement and loyalty
- \*Improve Organizational Effectiveness

## **2017–18 School Goals**

1. Attaining High Student Achievement
  - \*student attendance
  - \*Tribe Time for remediation and acceleration
  - \*Improvement in student writing skills as measured by the Georgia Milestones
  - \*parent connection and involvement
  - \*collective efficacy
2. Ensure Stakeholder Engagement and Loyalty
  - \* Establish a Family Engagement team
  - \*Communication through newsletters, school webpage, social media,
  - \*establish two parent teacher conferences throughout the school year.
  - \*Academic centered family nights
3. Improve Organizational Effectiveness
  - \*Professional learning
  - \*vertical team talks
  - \*RTI and data monitoring

## **School-Parent Compacts**

As part of this plan, Ephesus Elementary and our families will develop 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. The school-parent compacts are kept in the front office. The compact is also posted on the school website

## **Let's Get Together!**

Ephesus Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parental involvement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. Some activities and meetings are held both during the day, and some in the evening to allow more participation from the parents and community.

### ***Open House – August 2, 2017 from 10am-6pm***

Meet your child's teacher and our friendly and helpful school staff for the year.

### ***Class Meetings – August 2, 2017 from 10am-6pm***

Learn helpful information to prepare for the school year.

### ***Survivor Competition- September 20th***

Parents and children pair up to compete in messy, wet, and silly games.

### ***Grits with Grandparents September 8th***

Enjoy a sweet treat with your child. Parents, Grandparents, and Guardians are invited to have a special dessert at school with their favorite elementary school student(s).

### ***Parent/Teacher Conferences September 11-14 3:45-5:45***

### ***Annual Title I Meeting and Family Engagement Team Meeting – September 13th beginning at 7:00am and September 25, 2017 starting at 5:30pm***

We invite you to a time to learn about our Title I program, including our parental involvement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements. Invitations will be mailed and posted in the school newsletter and local media. On September 14 we will have a Family Engagement team meeting.

### ***Fall Fun Day and Book Character Day- October 31st***

Fun reading and math games and activities themed as a "Fall Festival"

### ***Family Science Night November 16 5:30-7:00***

### ***Lighting of the Ephesus Community Christmas Tree December 1st at 5:30***

### ***Winter Parade and Festival –December 2nd***

Enjoy the annual Christmas parade put on by the City of Ephesus, then join us for food, fun, shopping, and games at the school.

## Family Engagement Events and Activities Continued

### *Family Engagement Meetings – Monthly (Times to alternate between morning and evening)*

Come meet with stakeholder representatives and get involved and informed about what and why things happen around EES.

### **Fourth and Fifth grade dance February**

### **5K Superhero Run**

### *Olympic Day- May 23*

A competition both physically and mentally, between three teams that are identified as 3 different countries. Parents and Community members are involved and welcomed to participate.

### **Honors Day May 25th**

### *Spring Stakeholder Meeting –*

A forum for parents to participate in roundtable discussions with the principal and staff regarding the schoolwide plan, parental involvement policy, school-parent compacts and the parental involvement budget.

\*\*More activities will be added as the Family Engagement Team meets to plan and provide input.

## Parent Resources

EES provides opportunities through family engagement nights and parent publications for parents to learn strategies obtain materials to help their child at home.

## Parental Involvement

Ephesus Elementary believes that parental involvement means the participation of parents 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.
- 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.
- The carrying out of other activities as described in this plan.

Ephesus Elementary is committed to helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with transportation in order to participate in our programs.

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## Ephesus Elementary is Branching Out!

Ephesus Elementary will take the following measures to promote and support parents 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 posted on the school Web site, and included in the monthly school newsletter for all parents.
- Provide monthly trainings for staff during their planning periods on strategies to improve understanding of standards and benchmarking. Staff will also share best practices during faculty meetings.
- Promote the Baby Braves program sending school information about parent engagement activities to help prepare their child for kindergarten and improve school transition.
- Share information 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 through PowerSchool.
- Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, through phone messages and social media.
- Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and activities to create more opportunities for parental involvement.
- 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 parental involvement policy.
- Offer a computer for parents to help further enhance their understanding of student progress.
- Collect feedback from parents and post a suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.

## Family Engagement Team

Ephesus Elementary 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:

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

## School Council

The school council is a group made up of parents, business partners, students, teachers, and the principal. This council provides input on specific school related topics and represent the views of their peers to the principal. School Council is charged to share ideas and ways to involve other parents, to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. This team acts as advocates for the school and promotes the school in positive ways to the community. The team will meet four times during the school year, but parents 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 Council, please contact the principal at (770) 854-4400 or complete the interest form and leave it in the Main Office.

## Family Engagement Team/volunteers

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the Family Engagement Team
- Yes, I am interested and wish to volunteer to help out with different school events.

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 concerns with any part of this plan or 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:

Comments: