

# Dodge County Elementary School



**2023-2024**

**Title I**

**Parent and Family Engagement Handbook**

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*Dr. Sheila Honeycutt, Principal*

*Revision Date 08-24-2023*



# A Parent's Guide to Title I

## **What is Title I?**

Title I, Part A is a federally funded program under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The purpose of Title I under ESSA is to ensure that **all** children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and state academic assessments.

## **All Dodge County schools are Title I schools.**

Dodge Primary School

Dodge Elementary School

Dodge County Middle School

Dodge County High School

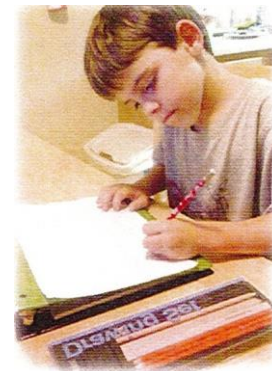
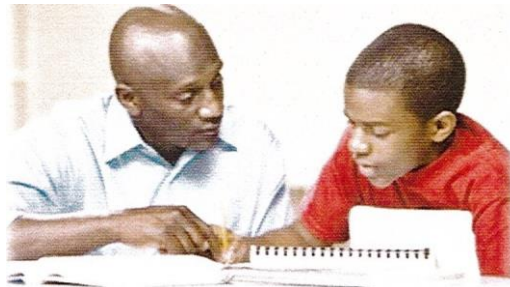
## **What supports are provided through Title I?**

The Title I Program offers a variety of supports which may include, but are not limited to, additional teachers, support staff, instructional materials and supplies, technology to support student learning, tutoring, professional development for school staff and capacity building events for families.

## What role does family engagement play in Title I?

Family engagement is an integral part of the ESSA law. Districts and schools receiving Title I funding must:

- Ensure that high-quality academic assessments, accountability systems, teacher preparation and training, curriculum, and instructional materials are aligned with challenging State academic standards so that students, teachers, parents and administrators can measure progress against common expectations for student academic achievement.
- Afford parents substantial and meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.



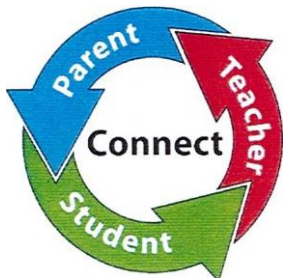
## **Families,**

You can have a tremendous influence on your child's success in school. By partnering with the school and participating in the Title I program, you will:

- show your child that you support and value his/her education.
- be able to closely monitor your student's progress.
- build stronger relationships between home and school.
- provide valuable input about school-wide programs.

Research shows that students whose families are engaged perform better academically, socially and behaviorally. Be sure to become involved in your child's school by:

- communicating regularly with your child's teacher.
- attending academic-based family events and parent-teacher conferences.
- volunteering at the school.
- joining the School Council.
- providing input concerning the Title I program at the school.



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# **Dodge County Elementary School**

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## *Dodge County Elementary School*

### **THE CONNECTION**

*Family-School Engagement Plan and Compact  
2023-2024*



*Dr. Sheila Honeycutt, Principal  
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[www.dces.dodge.k12.ga.us](http://www.dces.dodge.k12.ga.us)

*Revision Date 8/24/2023*

## **THE CONNECTION**

### **What is it?**

**The Connection** is a comprehensive document joining our School-Family Engagement Plan and Compact together with the purpose of strengthening the bond between school and home. **The Engagement Plan** describes how our school will provide opportunities to improve family engagement that will support student learning at school and at home. All students and their families are invited and encouraged to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. The school will provide information and as many opportunities as possible for the participation of all family members. **The Compact** explains what teachers, parents and students each will do in an effort to work together to make sure that our students reach grade level standards. The Compact is discussed with families during parent-teacher conferences throughout the school year.

### **How is it revised?**

The Connection is jointly developed and revised by our school's stakeholders. All families are invited to attend our annual Shared Decision Making Meeting (SDM) held each spring. Families are asked to review and give feedback on the Engagement Plan, Compact, and budget, including the 1% set aside. All feedback forms from the SDM Meetings are collected, reviewed and used to revise this document and to improve program planning for the next school year. Families who are not able to attend the SDM Meeting have the opportunity to provide input by completing an online feedback form and completing the Title I Parent Satisfaction Survey that seeks suggestions regarding the plan, compact and budget.

### **Who is it for?**

The Connection is for all students attending a Title I School and their families. We encourage and invite families to fully participate in the opportunities described in this document. Our school will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, of migratory children and caretakers of students served in Neglected and Delinquent Centers.

### **Where is it available?**

The Connection is included in our Title I Handbook that is provided to all parents and families at the beginning of the year or whenever a new student enrolls. The Connection is also available on our school website and in our Parent Resource Center. Families can request a copy at any time during the school year.

### **What is Title I**

**Dodge County Elementary School** is identified as a Title I school as a 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 plan and compact.

## Let's Stay Connected

Dodge County Elementary 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. Here are the ways to stay connected and informed.

- Progress Reports and Report Cards
- School Website
- Social Media (Facebook)
- School Messenger call-outs
- Emails
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- REMIND
- PowerSchool
- Newsletters

## Access to Staff

- All teachers and staff are available through email. See the school webpage for contact information.
- Conferences can be scheduled directly with your child's teacher or through the Main Office at (478) 374-6690.

## ACTIVITIES TO BUILD PARTNERSHIPS

**Dodge County Elementary School** plans the following events to build the capacity for strong parent and family engagement and to support a partnership among school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. Meetings and events are scheduled at various times and in different formats to accommodate the needs of our families. These events may be held in person or virtually.

Event	Focus	Date
Open House	Curriculum	July 32, 2023
Annual Title I Meeting	Informational	Oct. 19, 2023
PowerSchool Training	Technology	Ongoing
Literacy Event	Curriculum -Literacy	Oct. 19, 2023
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Parent Workshops/Events	Curriculum	Ongoing
Parent-Teacher Conferences	Curriculum	Oct.2023, Jan.2024,Mar.2024
Reading Buddies	Curriculum - Literacy	Ongoing
ESOL/Migrant Parent Workshops	Curriculum	Ongoing
Veteran's Day Program	Welcoming	Nov. 19, 2023
Thanksgiving/ Christmas Lunches	Welcoming	Nov.15- 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec.13- 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup>
Science Fair	Curriculum	Nov. 30, 2023
Beta Club Convention	Welcoming	Nov. 29-30, 2023
Cookies with Santa/Choir Concert	Welcoming	Dec. 5, 2023
School Council Meetings	SDM	TBA- Fall 2023
Book Fair	Welcoming	Dec. 4-8
Parent Support Cafe	Welcoming/Curriculum	Ongoing
STEM Event	Curriculum	Feb. 6, 2024
President/Black History Program	Welcoming	Feb. 14, 2023
Milestone Testing	Testing/Assessment	March 2024
Title I Parent Satisfaction Survey	SDM	February 2024
Field Day Week	Welcoming	March 25-29
Art Show/Choir Concert	Welcoming	March 21, 2024
Math Night	Curriculum	April 9, 2024
Welcome to Dodge Co. Elementary	Transition	May 2024
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Programs/ Awards	Welcoming/Transition	May 23, 2024

## Family Engagement

Our FEC is **Carla Jessup**. She is available to assist families in a variety of ways from finding resources, connecting with teachers and administrators, and providing opportunities for you to learn how to help your student at home.

Office #: 478-374-6690

Email: [carla.jessup@dodge.k12.ga.us](mailto:carla.jessup@dodge.k12.ga.us)

## Parent Resource Center

Visit the Parent Resource Table to get pamphlets, brochures, and other resource materials to use at home with your child.

Dodge Elementary School's  
Front Office Hours  
Monday - Friday, 7:45 - 4:00pm

## Volunteer opportunities



- Families are encouraged to volunteer their talents at DCES. Opportunities include, but not limited to, School Council, PTO, and event volunteers.
- Parents are welcome to meet with their child's teacher with a pre-scheduled appointment to avoid any unnecessary disruption within the classroom.

## Our Pledge to our Parents and Families

**Dodge County Elementary School** 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, Dodge Elementary School 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 in both English and Spanish 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 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 in English and Spanish.
- \*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.



## 2023-2024 District Goals

- ▶ Improve student achievement with rigorous and relevant instruction.
- ▶ Promote and contribute to a positive school culture and climate for all.

## 2023-2024 School Goals

- ▶ Increase the percentage of students reading on Grade Level.
- ▶ Increase the number of students meeting grade level standards.
- ▶ Increase parent engagement to improve student achievement.

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

## Focus Areas

- ▶ Word Recognition
- ▶ Literacy Skills
- ▶ Phonological Awareness
- ▶ Number Sense

## ***Our Compact: Teachers, Families and Students –Together for Success***

### DCES will

- ▶ Provide families with a newsletter that features literacy skills covered in the classroom.
- ▶ Conduct Academic Events focusing on literacy skills and word recognition.
- ▶ Provide families appropriate level books to read nightly to improve fluency and word recognition.

### Family will

- ▶ Practice literacy skills with their child, using the skills covered in the newsletter, provided by the teacher.
- ▶ Attend Academic Events for strategies focusing on literacy skills and word recognition.
- ▶ Listen to their child read nightly from appropriate level books to improve fluency and word recognition.

### Student will

- ▶ Practice literacy skills nightly by using the skills provided in the newsletter.
- ▶ Remind their parents about upcoming Academic Events.
- ▶ Read nightly for at least 10 minutes from appropriate level books.
- ▶ Give parents flyers, newsletters, and all other correspondence.



## 2023-2024 District Goals

- ▶ Improve student achievement with rigorous and relevant instruction.
- ▶ Promote and contribute to a positive school culture and climate for all.

## 2023-2024 School Goals

- ▶ Increase the percentage of students reading on Grade Level.
- ▶ Increase the number of students meeting grade level standards.
- ▶ Increase parent engagement to improve student achievement.

# 4<sup>st</sup> Grade

## Focus Areas

- ▶ Decoding Skills/  
Word Study
- ▶ Comprehension Strategies
- ▶ Fact Fluency

## ***Our Compact: Teachers, Families and Students -Together for Success***

### DCES will

- ▶ Provide families appropriate grade level reading texts for individual students to improve fluency.
- ▶ Conduct a Parent Academic Event focusing on comprehension strategies, decoding skills and word study.
- ▶ Provide families with a newsletter listing current standards taught in the classroom.

### Family will

- ▶ Listen to their child read every day for at least 20 minutes.
- ▶ Attend Academic Events focusing on comprehension strategies, decoding skills, word study and fact fluency.
- ▶ Read, review, and discuss newsletters listing current standards taught with their student.

### Student will

- ▶ Give parents flyers, newsletters, and all other correspondents.
- ▶ Read from the reading texts for at least 20 minutes to their parents.
- ▶ Discuss, review, and practice current standards being taught in the classroom.
- ▶ Remind their parents about the Academic Events and Activities.

## 2023-2024 District Goals

- ▶ Improve student achievement with rigorous and relevant instruction.
- ▶ Promote and contribute to a positive school culture and climate for all.

## 2023-2024 School Goals

- ▶ Increase the percentage of students reading on Grade Level.
- ▶ Increase the number of students meeting grade level standards.
- ▶ Increase parent engagement to improve student achievement.

# 5th Grade

## Focus Areas

- ▶ Decoding Skills
- ▶ Reading and Comprehension Strategies
- ▶ Word Study

## Our Compact: *Teachers, Families and Students -Together for Success*

### DCES will

- ▶ Provide families with appropriate level reading texts for individual students to improve fluency.
- ▶ Conduct an Academic Event focusing on comprehension strategies, decoding skills and word study.
- ▶ Provide families with a newsletter listing current standards taught in the classroom.

### Family will

- ▶ Listen to their child read every day for at least 20 minutes.
- ▶ Attend Academic Events focusing on comprehension strategies, decoding skills, and word study.
- ▶ Read, review, and discuss newsletters listing current standards taught with their student.

### Student will

- ▶ Read from the reading texts for at least 20 minutes to their parents.
- ▶ Remind my parents about Academic Events.
- ▶ Discuss, review, and practice current standards being taught in the classroom.
- ▶ Give parents flyers, newsletters, and all other correspondence.

**Dodge County High School  
Title I Acknowledgement Form**

For the 2023-2024 school year, our Title I Handbook is available for your viewing on our school website at [www.dces.dodge.k12.ga.us](http://www.dces.dodge.k12.ga.us).

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.

**TO BE COMPLETED BY SCHOOL  
PERSONNEL ONLY**

Hard Copy of Title I Handbook was given to this student:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Given By: (Teacher, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

-Teachers please sign each form before sending home.

-When returned, keep forms in a folder in your classroom.

-Make sure there are 3 different signatures on each form.

**PLEASE CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I would prefer a printed hard copy of the Handbook. We will gladly send a copy home with your student.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would prefer to access the Handbook online at [www.dces.dodge.k12.ga.us](http://www.dces.dodge.k12.ga.us).

Teacher Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

If you prefer to receive a printed copy of the Handbook, please indicate by placing an X in the space provided at the top of this page and we will gladly send one home with your student.

If you prefer to access the document on the school website, please indicate by placing an X in the space provided at the top of this page.

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

**THIS FORM NEEDS TO BE RETURNED TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER.**

