

Ethel W. Kight Elementary School

Parent & Family Engagement Policy

2024–2025 School Year

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Plan Revised March 21, 2024

What is Title I?

Ethel W. Kight 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 challenging state academic standards to reinforce and enhance efforts in improving teaching and learning for students.

Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parent & family engagement.

Title I schools must jointly develop a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it?

This is a plan that describes how Ethel W. Kight Elementary School (EKES) will provide opportunities to improve parent & family engagement to support student learning. EKES values the contributions and involvement of parents & families to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that EKES will support parent & 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 revised?

EKES invited all families to attend our annual School Improvement Forum last spring to review and revise this parent & family engagement policy, the school improvement policy, and the parental involvement budget. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year through a form available in the Parent Resource Center. The plan is posted on our school website for families to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next 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. EKES will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available?

At the beginning of the year, the plan will be included in the parent-student handbook that is available on the school's social media sites. Copies of the plan will also be available at our Annual Title I Parent Meeting at the beginning of the year and housed in the Parent Resource Room.

2024-25 District Goals

1. Focus on student success and well being.
2. Ensure equitable opportunities for all.
3. Focus on recruiting, inducting and retaining quality staff.
4. Cultivate the capacity of the school system to function as a flexible and adaptable organization.

District Values

Connection

Equity

Achievement

Resilience

Integrity

Compassion

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, EKES and our families will develop school-parent compacts by grade level. These are agreements that parents, teachers, and students develop to explain how all parties work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards and goals. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents,

students and teachers during the beginning of each school year. Parents will receive a copy of the compact to keep at home. Compacts will be reviewed with parents during the year as well.

Let's Get Together!

Ethel W. Kight Elementary School will host a variety of events and meetings to promote parent and family engagement. Parent Nights covering core curriculum will be held multiple times during the school year to improve student academic achievement. Multiple dates and times, including virtual meetings, will be chosen for these events, and we will continue to explore different alternatives to enhance our ability to continually reach more parents. The events will be designed to build the capacity for strong parent & family engagement and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community. Invitations to various events will come home in Tuesday folders, dates will be posted in grade level newsletters, on our school website, Facebook, and electronic messages using School Status, Digital Signage throughout the school and Class Dojo. We may also be able to offer childcare during meetings if needed. Please call the school office if services are needed.

Annual Title I Parent Meeting – Beginning of the year- We invite families to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent & family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements.

Open House – Beginning of the year- This is an evening function in which parents and families are invited to visit the school and speak with teachers concerning general information.

PBIS Parent Workshop- September- This workshop is conducted to inform families about our school wide PBIS initiative.

Parent Conferences – October and March - Conferences are held twice a year to inform parents of their child's academic progress.

GMAS Parent Lunch & Learn- 2nd half of the year- These workshops will help parents understand the Georgia Milestone Assessment System and provide effective testing strategies to help their child.

Family Literacy & Math Nights- These workshops are educational, fun-filled nights promoting literacy and standards based math strategies. The workshop includes activities for improving sight word fluency.

School Improvement Forum- Spring of the Year- This meeting is held to provide information and gather parent input pertaining to the Title I Parent & Family Engagement Policy, our School Improvement Plan/schoolwide plan, and the Title I Budget.

GED Classes for Parents- Partner with West Georgia Technical College to offer General Education Diploma (GED) classes for parents and guardians during the summer.

Pastries with Parents and Grandparents Lunch- Incorporate these breakfast/lunch themed events to connect our families and school, show our appreciation and seek role models to support our students throughout the year.

Cultural Activities (Black History Month & Hispanic Heritage Month)- Provide students the opportunity to learn, interact and appreciate in a wider range of cultural groups and feel empowered with their culture and diversity.

STEM Family Night- Engage families in shared experiences focused on science, technology, engineering, and math.

Parent Resource Center

Our parent resource center is located in room 52. Come to look through the pamphlets on a variety of topics or use the computer to find other resources.

Hours of operation are 7:30-2:30

Parent & Family Engagement

EKES believes that parent & family engagement means the participation of parents in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

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

EKES is committed to helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you miss a meeting and would like a copy of the minutes.

(706) 812-7943 or
ethel.troup.org

"On a Quest for the Best"

Ethel W. Kight Elementary will take the following measures to promote and support parents & families 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 the yearly calendar of events, grade level newsletters, Tuesday folders, on the school's social media sites, Class Dojo, school digital signage and School Status messages.
- ✓ Provide regular information for staff during faculty meetings and in staff updates on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- ✓ Partner with Head Start and Early Reading programs by conducting joint staff meetings for parents and sending school information about parent & family engagement activities to help prepare parents and their child for kindergarten and improve school transition.
- ✓ Share information in grade level newsletters and on the website 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 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 & family engagement.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ Provide translated materials and interpreters during meetings and conferences to the extent possible to help parents overcome the language barrier to be able to work with their child to improve achievement.
- ✓ Use our Partners in Education, School Council, and Parent Advisory Council (PAC) to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent & family engagement policy.
- ✓ Share information about literacy and computer classes for parents to help further enhance their various educational levels.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents at all events and post a suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent & family engagement activities.

Family Liaison

We have a Family Liaison in our building who strives to strengthen ties between home and school. Mrs. Raquel Roman is an asset to our school. Her main goals are to be available to parents based on their needs, coordinate parent programs, and maintain the necessary Title I documentation for the system and state.

Title 1 Parent Advisory Council

EKES invites all parents to join the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) to share ideas and ways to involve other parents and to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The council meets several times during the school year. Dates will be posted on our website Social Media.

If you'd like to know about the PAC, please contact

Mrs. Roman or
complete the
interest form
and leave
it in the
Main
Office.

Title 1 Parent Advisory Council

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the Title 1 Parent Advisory Council (PAC)
- Please contact me so I can learn more joining the PAC
- Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade: _____

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 plan that you feel is not satisfactory with the students' and the school's goals for academic achievement, please complete the form at the link below.

