

## Ben Hill Middle School

### *Parental Involvement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success*

**2024-2025 School Year**

**Ben Hill Middle School  
Michael Heitzman, Ed.S.  
134 J.C. Hunter Drive  
(229) 409-5578  
[www.ben-hill.k12.ga.us](http://www.ben-hill.k12.ga.us)**

*Plan Revised July 2024*

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

Ben Hill Middle School is identified as a Title I school. Title I is a part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which provides federal funds through the Georgia Department of Education to local school districts with a high percentage of economically disadvantaged students. Title I funds are used ensure that all children have the opportunity to meet challenging state academic standards. One requirement of Title I is that BHMS develop a parent involvement plan to provide the opportunity for parents to be involved in their children's education.



## School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

### **What is it?**

This is a plan that describes how Ben Hill Middle School will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Ben Hill Middle School 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 Ben Hill Middle School 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?**

Ben Hill Middle School will invite all parents to attend a Title I meeting in the Fall of 2024 to review and revise this parental engagement policy, as well as the schoolwide plan, our school-parent compact and the parental engagement budget. Parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year through an online form. The plan is posted on our school Web site 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 provide an annual survey online and by pencil/paper available in the school's front office to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parental engagement. Parents can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities during the school year. Please be sure to check our parent engagement calendar on the next page.

### **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. Ben Hill Middle School will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

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

The school's School-wide Plan, Parent-School Compact, and Parental Engagement Plan will be available to all parents in the school's office at the beginning of school, prior to the annual Title I Meeting. All parents will receive a call from the school's One Call system to notify them of the availability of the documents. A flyer will go home with all students to notify parents of their opportunity to view and respond to the documents as well as to notify them of the Title I meeting. Additionally, all documents will be available on the school's website.

## 2024-2025 School Goals

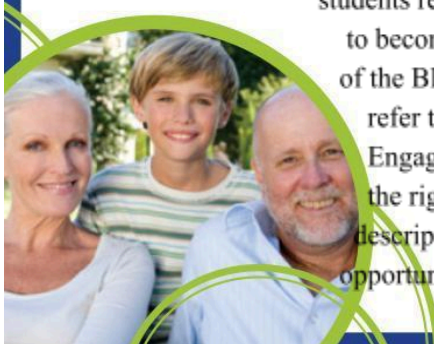
**#1: BHMS will achieve a score of 55.0 in content mastery for Reading/ ELA on the GMAS assessment**

**#2: BHMS will achieve a score of 50.0 in content mastery for Math on the GMAS assessment**

**#3: Improve communication with parents and stakeholders.**

### LET'S GET TOGETHER

Ben Hill Middle School will host many events throughout the year to ensure that parents have the maximum opportunity for strong involvement in their children's education. Each opportunity on the Parent Engagement Calendar is designed for parents, teachers, and students to work together, listen to each other, and share information that will ultimately provide our students with the best opportunities for success. We encourage you to use these opportunities to help your students reach their goals and to become active members of the BHMS family. Please refer to the Parent Engagement Calendar on the right for dates and descriptions of opportunities for this year.



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM  
FOR FY25  
SCHOOL NAME: **Ben Hill Middle School**



- July 26th, 2024.....6th Grade Orientation
- August 6th, 2024.....7th & 8th Grade Orientation
- August 20th, 2024.....Parent Teacher Organization Meeting
- September 5th, 2024.....Back to School Bash
- October 25th, 2024.....Parent Conference Day
- January 16th, 2025.....Writing to Win Workshop
- March 6th, 2025.....Parent Teacher Organization Meeting
- March 28th, 2025.....Parent Conference Day
- May 13th, 2025.....Summer Prep Workshop
- May 19th, 2025.....BHMS Honor's Night
- May 20th, 2025.....BHMS 8th Grade Crossover Ceremony



## Parent Resources

Come visit the Guidance Office if you have questions about your child's transcript, schedule, grades, and other requirements. Computers are available for parents to explore the Parent Portal and educational resources. Tuesday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm in the Media Center.

## Parental Involvement

Ben Hill Middle School believes that parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. Parents can do this through the following:

Playing an integral role in assisting their child's learning.

Being actively involved in their child's education at school.

Realizing that they have the opportunity to be full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making regarding the education of their child.

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

## Our Partners in Education

Ben Hill Middle School welcomes businesses and community organizations to become involved in supporting the activities in our Parent Engagement Plan to help ensure that all stakeholders in our community have a voice in our school.



## Ben Hill Middle School Is On the Move Toward Greatness!

Ben Hill Middle School 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 published in both English and Spanish, as needed.

Provide trainings for staff during their planning periods on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement.

Share best practices for parent and family engagement during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.

Partner with Ben Hill Elementary School to improve the transition from elementary school to 6th grade by hosting rising 5th graders during a "Visit BHMS Day"; gathering data from assessments and elementary teachers to inform scheduling, class assignments, and other information to help ensure that students' needs are met; and hosting the parents of rising 6th graders at an evening meeting to outline academic and other expectations in the Spring.

Share information on the school website, in parent meetings, and in parent workshops 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 and through phone messages, social media, newspaper, and flyers.

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 to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parental involvement policy.

Collect feedback from parents at all events and respond to suggestions in parent meetings and when setting new goals and planning future events.

Work together with our community Partners in Education to maximize resources that are available for students in all areas



## School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Ben Hill Middle School 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 of our students have the maximum potential to achieve the highest growth possible in every academic area. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers during the parent involvement activities, Title I meetings, and online forms. The school-parent compacts are kept with each child's teacher if you need a copy or would like to review please contact the teacher.

## Parent Teacher Organization

Ben Hill Middle School invites all parents to participate in the parent teacher organization. At these meetings, parents will have the opportunity to nominate parents or be nominated to represent parents on Ben Hill Middle PTO. PTO members meet regularly to look at school data, discuss the school's progress, and work with school leaders to ensure that all stakeholders have a voice in the decisions that are made for BHMS and our students.



## Parental Involvement Standards

The Georgia Department of Education and Ben Hill Middle School have adopted National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the state'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

## 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 appropriate to meet the goals for the students or school for academic achievement and parental involvement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the Front Office:

Name: (optional)

Telephone Number: (optional)

Suggestions: