

Family Engagement

Gilbert Elementary School believes that Family Engagement means the participation of parents in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including

- 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

Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Gilbert Elementary and our parents have adopted the National PTO 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 The Community

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it?

This plan describes different ways that Gilbert Elementary School will support Family Engagement and the opportunities for our families to participate in activities and events that promote learning at school and at home. GES values the contributions and involvement of families and wants to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement.

How is it developed?

Gilbert Elementary welcomes input and comments at any time regarding the plan. All family feedback will be used to revise the plan for next year. GES distributes an annual survey online to ask families for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family involvement. For families without internet access, paper copies are available in the parent resource center. We also accept feedback during several family engagement events during the school year including our Data Nights.

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. GES will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, disabilities, and of migratory children.

Where is this plan available?

At the beginning of the year, the plan is sent home with all students. The plan will also be posted on the school website and social media page. Parents can also pick up a copy of the plan in the parent resource center.

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2024-2025 District Goals

Reading: At the end of 2025 school year, we will see a 3% increase in the percentage of students who are proficient and above on Georgia Milestones ELA assessments from the 2024 results. (End of Grade in 3rd-8th and End of Course for English Literature and Composition combined) (Grade 2024 = 37.2%; goal for 2025 = 40.2%)

Math: At the end of the 2025 school year, we will see a 3% increase in the percentage of students who are proficient and above on Georgia Milestones Math assessments from the 2024 results. (End of Grade of 3rd-8th Grade and End of Course in Algebra I combined)

2024-2025 School Goals

Gilbert Elementary will have an increase in the percentage of students in 4th and 5th who are proficient and above on the Georgia Milestone Assessment in ELA and Math by 3% in the 2025 school year compared to 2024 school year results.

Parent Resource Center

Gilbert Elementary School is committed to helping our families attend the Family Engagement activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance in childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs. There are also resources such as books, study materials, and activities for check out in our Parent Resource Center. Computers are available for parents to explore PowerSchool and educational resources. The Parent Resource Center hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-2:00pm.

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Let's Get Together

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

Open House- August 2024

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

Annual Title I Meeting- August 2024

We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program including our parent and family engagement plan, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements. Invitations will be sent home with students and posted on Class Dojo and social media.

Fall Data- October 2024

A schedule update on your child's progress and a little of your child's curriculum.

Winter Data- January 2025

A scheduled update on your child's progress and catch up with the latest resources to help support your child's learning.

Annual Input Matters Survey- February 2025

Your input helps us work with school and staff to ensure a great school-home partnership.

GES- Annual Evaluation Meeting- April 2025

Parents and family members participate in round table discussions with the principal and staff regarding our Family Engagement Policy, Budget, and the School-Parent Compact which is vital to the success of our school.

Transition Night for 5th Parents- April 2025

Parents of 5th grade students are invited to LaFayette Middle School to meet their administrators and tour LMS. You will learn about the expectations, policies, and opportunities for rising middle school students.

Georgia Milestones Information- April 2025

We invite you to an hour of learning about the Georgia Milestones test including how to help your student prepare, testing tips, and how to read and interpret the results. The meeting will be recorded and shared on Class Dojo and social media.

Spring Data- May 2025

A scheduled update on your child's progress and a celebration of family engagement and the recognition of its impact on school and student success.

Transition Night for Kindergarten Students and Parents- May 2025

Parents of incoming kindergarteners in our attendance area are invited to tour the school, meet our school administrators and kindergarten teachers, and learn about the expectations and opportunities for kindergarten students.

Gilbert Elementary School Wants You!

Gilbert Elementary 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 parents programs, meetings, and other activities is published in the language and format that families understand and posted on the school website and Class Dojo.
- Share information on the school website to help parents 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 in a timely manner and on a regular basis regarding school-wide events and activities through phone messages, social media, and flyers.
- Work with our families 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 families work with their student to improve his/her achievement.
- Collaborate with community leaders and business groups to increase participation and awareness of the school-parent involvement plan and activities.
- Listen and respond to parents' request for additional support for family involvement activities like childcare and transportation.
- Offer literacy and computer classes for parents and family members to help further enhance their various educational levels.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Gilbert Elementary School and our families will develop a school-parent compact. This is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop together that explains how each party will work together to ensure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be sent home with all students at the beginning of the school year. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers at the Annual Evaluation meeting. The compacts are kept on file with the Family Engagement Coordinator if parents would like a copy.

Share Your Thoughts

If you have suggestions or if there is any part of this plan that you feel is not satisfactory with your students' and the school's goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and return to the school.

Name: (optional) _____

Telephone Number:(optional) _____

Comments: _____
