B.E.S.T. Academy

Best, Engineering, Science and Technology Academy at The Thomas W. Dortch Jr. Institute

Parent and Family Engagement Plan for Shared Student Success | 2026-2027

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What Is Title I?

B.E.S.T. Academy is identified as a Title I school under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is a federally funded program that provides services to schools based on student economic needs and supports state and local school reform efforts tied to challenging academic standards. All Title I schools must jointly develop a written parent and family engagement plan with parents.

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

This plan describes how B.E.S.T. Academy will provide opportunities to improve family engagement and support student learning. The school values parents as equal partners in improving student achievement and encourages families to help plan and participate in activities that promote learning at school and at home.

How Is the Plan Developed?

Families are invited to participate in School-Wide Planning and Budget meetings to review and revise the Parent and Family Engagement Plan, School-Parent Compact, and family engagement budget. Parent feedback is also welcomed through online forms, surveys, parent meetings, school activities, and the school website. Feedback received during the year is used to revise future plans.

Who Is the Plan For?

All students participating in Title I, Part A and their families are encouraged to participate. B.E.S.T. Academy provides opportunities for parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

Where Is the Plan Available?

The plan is posted on the school website, emailed to families, distributed at the Annual Title I Meeting, and available through the Parent Academic Resource Center.

District Mission and Vision

Mission: Through a caring culture of equity, trust, and collaboration, every student will graduate ready for college, career, and life.

Vision: A high-performing school district where students love to learn, educators inspire, families engage, and the community trusts the system.

B.E.S.T. Academy Goals

- Increase the percentage of students meeting or exceeding expectations in Math by 5% or greater by 2027.
- Increase the percentage of students meeting or exceeding expectations in ELA by 5% or greater by 2027.

School-Parent Compact

B.E.S.T. Academy and families jointly develop a School-Parent Compact that explains how parents, teachers, and students work together to help students reach grade-level standards. The compact is reviewed and updated annually using feedback from parents, students, and teachers.

B.E.S.T. Academy Family Engagement

Engaging Families All School Year Long

Family Engagement Opportunities

B.E.S.T. Academy hosts events to strengthen partnerships among the school, families, and community and improve student achievement. Future events are communicated through the school website, flyers, email, text messages, voice messaging, and the B.E.S.T. Academy app.

- Open House, Parent Orientation, and Meet & Greet
- Town Hall, Parent Portal, and Technology Support
- Parent-Teacher Conferences and staff workshops
- Family Game Night
- New and Existing Parent Support Group
- Annual Title I Parent Meeting
- Grade-Level Nights
- All Pro Dads
- Grandparents Talk and support for IEP, 504, and special needs
- Bring Your Parent to School Day, College Fair, and parenting conversations
- ELA and Reading Enrichment Workshop
- Family Vision Board Party and scholarship/summer enrichment support
- Heart Health and Heart 2 Heart
- Math, Science, and Engineering Mardi Gras
- Title I Spring Input Meeting, Milestones support, and Open House
- Transition Workshop

What Parent Engagement Means at B.E.S.T.

B.E.S.T. Academy defines parent engagement as meaningful, two-way communication about student learning and school activities. Families are encouraged to support learning at home and school, participate in decision-making and advisory opportunities, and take part in activities described in this plan.

How B.E.S.T. Supports Families

- Provide school and parent program information in English and Spanish through the website and school communications.
- Train staff on effective parent communication and family engagement strategies.
- Share information that helps families prepare students for school transitions.
- Provide information about academic standards, assessments, student progress, and ways to work with teachers.
- Communicate schoolwide events through phone messages, social media, flyers, and other school channels.
- Partner with parents to develop useful trainings and presentations.
- Provide materials and handouts that help families support student achievement.
- Collect parent feedback at events and through the school's suggestion process.

Parent Academic Resource Center (PARC)

The Parent Academic Resource Center is located in Room C-107 and is open Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM-3:00 PM. Families may contact Parent Liaison LaNett Stanley-Turner at 404-802-4964 or lastanley-turner@atlanta.k12.ga.us with questions or for assistance. B.E.S.T. Academy also asks families to contact the school if childcare or transportation assistance is needed to participate in parent activities.

Family Engagement Committee

B.E.S.T. Academy invites all parents and guardians to join the Title I Family Engagement Committee to share ideas, strengthen school-family-community partnerships, and identify ways to involve more families. Parents may also submit suggestions during activities, meetings, surveys, and through the school website.

Parent Involvement Standards

B.E.S.T. Academy and its families use the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as a model for engagement:

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

B.E.S.T. Academy - Where You Enter Determined and Exit Prepared!