Rutland Middle School

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Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2026-2027

Revised: May 15, 2026

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What is Title I?

Rutland Middle 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 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 schoolwide plan to strengthen student achievement.

District Goals

Refer to the detailed Board of Education 2023-2028 strategic plan for measurable outcomes by category.*

All students will reach high standards within a minimum attaining the following proficiency:

1. All students will continually demonstrate high academic and social-emotional growth preparing them for life, college, and careers.
2. All employees will excel daily in the performance of their roles to ensure our district thrives.
3. We will build collective ownership and active engagement among all stakeholders to maximize students' overall learning experience.

School Goals

- Rutland Middle School will increase 6th-8th grade students (and each subgroup, for example, ALL, ED, SWD, EL, Gifted, etc) performing at the proficient level or above by 6 percentage points in ELA (from 24.1 to 30.1), Math (from 23.5 to 29.5), Science(8th) (from 13.8 to 19.8) and Social Studies(8th) (from 13 to 19) on Spring 2027 GMAS. (*Emphasis on distinguished)
  - Focus Area: Students in grades 6–8 will participate in personalized learning opportunities, engaging in targeted remediation, intervention, or enrichment activities based on individual student performance data and identified academic needs to support increased proficiency in ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies.
- Rutland Middle school will reduce the percentage of students chronically absent by 14% from 27.87 to 23.87 and achieve an average daily attendance of 95% by end of 2026-2027 school year.
  - Focus Area: The school will use attendance data to monitor, communicate, and address student attendance concerns and partner with students and families to provide support that increases regular attendance and reduces chronic absenteeism.

What is this Plan?

This Plan explains how Rutland Middle School will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Rutland Middle values the contributions and engagement of parents and family members to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This Plan describes the different ways Rutland Middle will support family engagement and provides information on how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it revised?

Parents are invited to attend the annual Title I Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Forum to review and revise this Plan, including the Schoolwide Plan, School-Parent Compact and the family engagement budget. Meetings are scheduled at convenient times for parents. Additionally, parents' input and comments regarding this Plan are welcome during the school year. Feedback received will be used to revise the Plan for the next school year. We also distribute an annual survey to ask families for their suggestions on the Plan and use of funds for family engagement.

Where is it available?

The plan will be available on the school website, in the front office of the school, and in the media center.

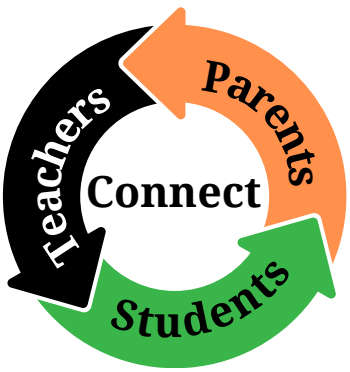
Interpreter available upon request.

School-Parent Compact

Our School-Parent Compact is developed through a collaboration with teachers, parents, and students and explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The Compact is reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from teachers, parents, and students during the Title I Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Forum. The School-Parent Compact is also shared during parent-teacher conferences, and is kept on file with each child's teacher if parents request another copy.

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. Rutland Middle will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English proficiency, with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.



Family Engagement

Rutland Middle School will take the following measures to promote and support parents and family members as an important foundation of the school to strengthen the school and reach our school goals.

We will-

- Communicate with families and the community on a regular basis about school meetings and events. At RMS, we communicate with parents through Parent Square, e-mail, meetings, phone calls and the Hurricane Happenings Newsletters sent on Parent Square and posted on social media.
- Ensure that all information related to school and family programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish.
- Provide training for staff with the input of parents to work with families, as equal partners, on improving communication and increasing family engagement through effective strategies shared at collaborative meetings, regular staff meetings, tip sheets, and other resources.
- Partner with Federal, state and the local community, sponsors, businesses, churches, and other public programs to coordinate and integrate family engagement activities to support the full participation of parents in their child's education.
- Host transitional workshops for our families to support and prepare for students as they transition from one educational setting to the next. Planned activities are scheduled for incoming 6th grade students entering middle school and outgoing 8th grade students entering high school.
- 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.
- Listen and respond to parents' requests for additional support for family engagement activities by providing parent surveys throughout the school year to gain feedback, suggestions and concerns. Parent and family members may also provide feedback throughout the year.
- Collect feedback from parents and family members at all events in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.
- The school administration, counselors, family engagement facilitator, community sponsors, and office staff will encourage student achievement by actively engaging in the education of our students.
- Parent Resource Center: Provide parents with access to resources and materials they can use to support their students and families.

All volunteers are welcome at Rutland Middle School. Volunteer application packets are available in the front office. For more information, please contact the Title I Family Engagement Facilitator at 478-779-4400

Engagement Opportunities

The following events will be offered to parents in order to strengthen partnership among the school, families, and the community to improve academic achievement. All meetings for parents and family members are held at flexible times and dates.

- Open House and Classroom Visitation: July/August 2026 - Parents have the opportunity to meet their child's teacher, administrators, counselors, and staff.
- Annual Title I Meeting: August 2026 - An informative session of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our school wide plan, parent and family engagement plan, school-parent compact, and parents' requirements.
- Curriculum workshops for parents throughout the school year- workshops will be provided on various topics including Georgia Milestones, Technology, Digital Literacy, and Copyright Piracy Information Session for Parents. Discussions will include test-taking tools, helpful tools on how to monitor student progress and websites that promote learning.
- Professional Development for Teachers (Ongoing discussions will be held during the year.) - Administrators, faculty and staff, with the input of parents, discuss and share information on how to build stronger ties between home and school.
- Georgia Family Engagement Month/National Parental Involvement Day: November 19, 2026 - Welcome and honor parents and family members in support of students and their academic achievements.
- Title I Parent and Family Engagement Survey: November-December 2026 - We will collect parent suggestions on Rutland's Family Engagement Program and use of funds for family engagement.
- Black History Program - February 2027
- Parent-Teacher and Student Conference: Ongoing - Teachers will provide updates on their child's progress. Student-led conferences will be held for students to share with their parents how they have progressed from the beginning of the year.
- Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Forums: Spring 2027 - Join us for round-table discussions with the principal and staff regarding the School-wide Improvement Plan, Parent and Family Engagement Plan, School-Parent Compact, and the family engagement budget.
- Smooth Move: May 2027 - Parents and family members will receive information about the school curriculum and expectations for middle and high school students.
- PTO (Parent, Teacher Organization) - We are looking for parents who want to help us revive our PTO.