**South Columbus Elementary**

 *School Parental Involvement Policy*

*2017-2018*

*Principal, Mrs. J. Dawn Jenkins*

*Assistant Principal, Mrs. Melanie Bastien*

*1964 Torch Hill Road*

*Columbus, GA. 31903*

*[706]683-8833*



**What is Title I?**

**South Columbus Elementary School is identified as a Title I school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).  Title I is a federal grant that was designed to ensure that all children receive a high quality education and reach grade level proficiency.  Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parent and family engagement.**

**School Plan for Shared Student Achievement**

**What is it?**

The Parent & Family Engagement Policy describes how South Columbus Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning South Columbus Elementary School values the contributions and involvement of parents in order to establish partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. The Parent & Family Engagement Policy describes the different ways the school will support parent engagement and how parents can be involved.

**How is it developed?**

South Columbus Elementary School welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding the Parent & Family Engagement Policy. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for next year. The Parent & Family Engagement Policy is available for parents to view and provide feedback throughout the year South Columbus Elementary School also distribute a Title I Annual Survey to ask parents for suggestions on the Parent & Family Engagement Policy and the use of funds for parent involvement.

**Who is it for?**

All parents at South Columbus Elementary School are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in the Parent & Family Engagement Policy. South Columbus Elementary 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?**

 At the beginning of the year, the Parent & Family Engagement Policy is included in the student handbook given out to all students. South Columbus Elementary School will have an available copy for parents at the Annual Open House & the Title I Annual Parent Meeting. Parents can also receive a copy of the Parent & Family Engagement Policy in the Parent Resource Room/Area, the front office of the school or on the school’ website at any time.



**District Goals**

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* The Muscogee County School District will create an environment that focuses on tier 1 instruction while targeting individual student needs, leadership development, and customer service.

**School’s SMART Goal**

* By May 2018, 100% of SCES teachers will implement the Second Step social emotional learning curriculum with students in grades PK-5 and at least 75% of the classrooms will show evidence of the practices.
* By May 2018, 95% of teachers in grades K-5 will implement the writing process to include the four types of writing, the five writing structures, and the six traits of writing to enhance students’ writing skills in all content areas.

**Parent Involvement Program and Activities at South Columbus Elementary School**

South Columbus Elementary will host the following events, workshops, and activities to build parent capacity and increase student academic achievement.

**Annual Title I Parent Night (August/September):**

Evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program including: Parental Involvement Policy, School Improvement Plan, Parent-School Compact, and the parents’ requirements. All invitations will be sent home, on the school’s website, on the drive by board, and through Connect-Ed Message.

**Title I Annual Open House (September /October):**

Come meet your child’s teacher and our friendly and helpful school staff for the school year.

**Smart Goal Workshops** (October/ November) Workshops to inform parents of the goals included in the School Improvement Plan.

**Academic Workshop**: (March) Workshop to get parents involved to increase student achievement.

**The State Assessment** (March) Learn strategies to engage your student to do his/her best on the test!

**Parent-Teacher Conferences** (October-February) Scheduled updates on your child’s progress

**Switching Tracks:** (May) Transitioning from elementary school to middle school

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**What is a School Parent Compact?**

**As part of the Parent & Family Engagement Policy, South Columbus Elementary** **School and our families will develop a School Parent Compact. A School Parent Compact for Achievement is an agreement that parents, students, and teachers develop together. It explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compact will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers. The School-Parent Compacts are kept in the Parent Resource Are/Room. A copy will also be kept with each child’s teacher if parents need a copy.**

**What is Parental Involvement?**

South Columbus Elementary School believes

that parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular two-way and meaningful communication involving student achievement.

South Columbus Elementary School believes:

* Parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning
* Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education.
* Parents are full partners in their child’s education and included in the decision-making of their child’s education



**Assistance to Central Region FSC**

Effective parental involvement will not be an occasional event, such as a parent conference; rather it will be an on-going process. South Columbus Elementary is committed to helping our parents by maintaining a Parent Resource Area/Room for parents to check out materials to use at home with their child**. Please contact Mrs. Hurston White at (706)683-8833 or email at Hurston-White.Carmen.J@muscogee.k12.ga.us** if you need assistance.

**School Measures to Provide Required Assistance**

South Columbus Elementary School will take the following measures to promote and support parents in the following ways:

* Ensure all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and activities are published in both English and Spanish, posted on the school’s website, included in monthly newsletters, and posted on school’s marquee
* Conduct staff development twice a year on parent involvement practices and effective strategies for staff to communicate and build partnerships with parents
* Partner with daycares to share information about parent engagement activities that will help prepare parents and their child for kindergarten.
* Share information in English and Spanish in the school’s newsletter and on the website for parents to understand the schools’ academic standards and assessment as well as ways parents can monitor their child’s progress.
* Communicate with all families on a regular basis regarding school events, workshops and activities through Connect-Ed, marquee, newsletters, flyers, drive by stand, and website.
* Provide materials at conferences, workshops, and activities to help parents work with their child at home
* Create and maintain a Parent Resource Area/Room to allow parents opportunities to check-out materials to assist them with helping their child at home.
* Listen to parents to provide workshops and training that meet the needs of the parents and support parental involvement at the school
* Collaborate with the community and Partners in Education to increase participation and awareness of the school parental involvement plan and activities.



**Parental Involvement Standards**

South Columbus Elementary School and our parents have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnership as the school’s model in engaging parents, students, and the community.

The National PTA 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 Community

**School Community Team**

* *Yes, I am excited about joining the School Community Team*
* *Yes, please contact me so I can learn more about the School Community Team*
* *Yes, this sounds like a great Idea, please keep me posted about future meetings*

*Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Child’s Name and Grade\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

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**Parent Comments**

All parents at South Columbus Elementary School are invited to give suggestions, comments, and

feedback if there is any part of the Parent & Family Engagement Policy that you feel is not satisfactory with the students’ and the school’s goals for academic achievement. Please send your comments, feedback or suggestions to Mrs. Hurston-White, Family Service Coordinator.

Parent Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Comments or Suggestions \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**School Community Team**

South Columbus Elementary School invites all parents to join the School Community Team to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with the school, families, and community. The team will meet one time (spring) during the school year, but parents can share ideas and suggestions during all activities, workshops and events as well as through surveys. If you would like to learn more about the School Community team, please call **Mrs. Hurston-White** at **(706)683-8833**.