



Cumming Elementary School

Parent and Family Engagement Policy

2023-2024

Promoting Shared Student Success

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What is Title I?

Title I is a federally funded program that is intended to supplement the regular classroom curriculum. Students are provided extra assistance in reading and/or math. The program's goal is to support students so that every child meets and/or exceeds the state's standards. A variety of teaching methods and materials are used to reinforce curriculum concepts.

Cumming Elementary is identified as schoolwide Title I as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). A school-wide Title I program ensures the success of all students. Everyone has access to the numerous resources and materials purchased with Title I funds, including iPods, laptops, computer programs, books, manipulatives, and learning games. Because of Title I, you and your child have access to excellent resources and enriching programs.

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

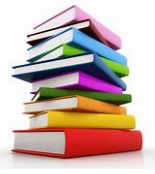
What is it? This plan describes how Cumming Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement in order to support student learning. The staff and parents at CES are committed to providing a quality education for all of our students. In order to achieve this goal, the teachers and staff at CES realize that a strong partnership between the school and home is essential. We encourage our parents and community to actively participate in the education of CES students. This plan is written in an understandable format and in a language that all parents can understand. The plan is updated annually to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

How is it developed? Cumming Elementary's Parent and Family Engagement Policy is jointly developed because all stakeholders have opportunities for input. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We distribute an annual survey online to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family involvement. Parents may give feedback during our end-of-the-year May Meeting to revise the plan for the upcoming school year. The plan is finalized and approved by members of the Title I Advisory Committee.

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. Cumming Elementary provides a complete opportunity for the participation of families with limited English, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available? At the beginning of the school year, the plan is sent home with all students. The plan is posted on the Cumming Elementary Title I website. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Family Resource Room or the Information Station at the front of the school.

School Goals



Literacy



Math



Collaborative Planning



Family Engagement

Cumming Elementary sets goals for the 2023-24 school year.

The percent of 3rd-5th grade students scoring at Proficient or Distinguished on The ELA GA Milestones EOG Assessment will increase from 29% in Spring 2022 to 37% in Spring 2024.

The percent of 3rd-5th grade students scoring at Proficient or Distinguished on the Math GA Milestones EOG Assessment will increase from 41% in Spring 2023 to 45% in Spring 2024.

The number of documented behavior incidents will decrease from 561 in 2022-2023 to 500 in 2023-2024.

District Goals



Forsyth County Schools set goals for the 2023-2024 school year for the entire district.

Goal One: During the 2023-2024 school year, Forsyth County Schools will increase the achievement score within the Closing Gaps component of the CCRPI by meeting the 3% target established in the baseline school year for each grade level band.

Goal Two: During the 2023-2024 school year, 12% of the schools in FCS will increase their school climate rating and 48% will maintain 5 stars as reported on the CCRPI.

School Parent and Family Engagement Goals



Cumming Elementary sets goals for the 2023-24 school year.

Goal one: 100% of Cumming families will benefit from Title I resources by attending academic family night events.

Goal two: Provide at least one parent learning session per month to help parents/ families with academics, strategies, or information regarding student learning.

Goal three: Provide parents opportunities to volunteer, participate, and observe classroom activities.

Involvement Matters!

Cumming 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.

The school will provide parents with a description and explanation of the school's curriculum.

Parents will also receive a description and explanation of assessments used to measure student progress and proficiency levels the students are expected to meet. Parents will be provided with individual student academic assessment results and help to interpret those results. Academic reading and math nights will be held at least three times a year for kindergarten through fifth-grade students to build home/school partnerships and improve student academic achievement.

Annual Title I Meeting - September 21, 2023

Parents will learn about our Title I program and what it means to be part of a Title I school.

Curriculum Night- August 31, 2023

Parent-Teacher Conferences - October 2023

Family Appreciation Month - November 2023

Family Literacy Night-February 8, 2024

Family Math Night-November 16, 2023

Family Cultural Night-March 28, 2024

Families are invited to attend an academic literacy and math night. These meetings will provide materials and training to help families participate in supporting their child's learning at home. Each meeting includes a review of student academic performance data, parent-student academic goal setting, teacher demonstration of skills to practice at home, parent practice, and building relationships.

Parent Feedback Meeting - March 2024

An evening for Cumming families to help plan and provide input for our Schoolwide Plan for the upcoming school year.

Parent Academy - Ongoing beginning in September 2023

CES staff and guest speakers will discuss various academic strategies and study skills for parents to help their children with learning at home. Academic materials will be given for parents to use at home with reading and math.

Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students)

Fathers and father figures will have the opportunity to volunteer their time in different areas of the school serving. WatchDOGS volunteers will serve as positive male role models for the students, demonstrating by their presence that education is important.

Family Involvement



All families are welcome at Cumming Elementary. Family involvement means the participation of parents and other family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring-

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- 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.
- Forsyth County Schools will reserve 1% of the total amount of Title I funds received in FY24 to carry out the family involvement requirements listed in this policy. Throughout the year, parents may complete surveys and give input as to how funds can be spent that Cumming Elementary receives from this 1% set aside.

Family Involvement Standards

Cumming Elementary has adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community.

These standards are: Welcoming All Families, Communicating Effectively, Supporting Student Success, Learning at Home, Decision Making, Collaborating with the Community

Cumming Elementary – Whatever it Takes!

Cumming Elementary 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.

- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish, posted to the school website, and included in school newsletters for all parents.
- Partner with Head Start & GA Pre-K to share school information about parent engagement activities that will help prepare parents and their children for Kindergarten and improve school transition.
- Provide information to parents on the school's curriculum-The Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSA). The GSA encompasses ELA and Math standards. For more information visit their website at www.georgiastandards.org.
- Share information in both English and Spanish on the school website and newsletters for parents to understand the school's academic standards and assessments; as well as, the ways parents can monitor their individual child's achievement of the standards and assessments. Interpretation of the results and achievement levels will be provided.
- Provide assistance/trainings to parents of children served by the school in understanding topics such as The Georgia Standards of Excellence, the Georgia Milestones, Title I, Part A requirements, strategies parents can use to support their child's academic progress, and partnering with teachers to support their child's academic achievements.
- Listen and respond to parents' requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.
- Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities (such as reading and math trainings, technology, and education about the harms of copyright piracy) to help parents work with their children to improve their achievements.
- Communicate and collaborate with all families and community leaders on a regular basis regarding school-wide events and activities such as phone messages, social media, and flyers to increase parent participation and awareness of the Family Engagement Policy and activities.
- Provide a flexible number of meetings at convenient times for parents to support the partnership between home, school, and community to improve student academic success. With funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, home visits, and online recordings as such services relate to parental involvement.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Cumming Elementary and our families jointly developed a school-parent-student compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students developed that explains how parents, teachers, & students will work together to make sure all of our students reach grade-level standards. The school-parent-student compacts are given to parents at the beginning of each school year in order to review throughout the year. The compacts are reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers during the Parent Feedback Meeting.

Building Capacity of School Staff

Cumming Elementary values the contributions of our parents. Families will be invited to provide feedback via surveys, feedback forms, and in-person conversations about CES as a school in general, family events, and spending the 1% set-aside funds. Based on this feedback staff will be trained to better communicate with, value the utility and contributions of, and collaborate with parents as equal partners. CES staff recognizes the diverse student population at Cumming ES and will be provided support and training when using translation applications for electronic communication to provide information in a format and in a language families can understand in order to communicate and respond to parent requests for parent and family engagement activities.



We have a **Family Resource Center** that offers **FREE** academic resources for both students and parents to check out to use at home. We have academic resources for all grade levels. The Family Resource Room is located in the front office lobby.



Jen Emmert, Family Engagement Coordinator,
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CES will update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community. If the Title I school improvement plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, parents will be given the chance to submit any parent comments regarding the plan to the Family Engagement Coordinator. Additionally, we will incorporate the use of a formal complaint procedure and complaints will be forwarded to the district office. The complaint form can be found on the Cumming Title I webpage- [Title 1 / Family Engagement Policy](#).

