

Family Engagement Policy for Shared Student Success

2022-2023

REVISED 5/10/22



JHC Butler Elementary School

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Goals for Student Success

SCCPSS District Goals

To Ensure All Students are College and Career Ready

Objective A: To prepare our students to discover and explore their interests and to equip them with the knowledge, skills, dispositions and confidence necessary to successfully complete post-secondary training, and/or enter a career path of their choice.

Objective B: To increase the number of students who are powerfully literate, mathematically fluent, and effective problem solvers in grades 2 through 8.

JHC Butler Elementary Goals

- 1. All students in grades K-5 will show a 10% increase in all content areas to include, Reading, English Language Arts, Math, as measure by the iReady Assessment and Common Formative Assessments by May 2023.*
- 2. JHC Butler Elementary will earn a 4 out of 5 rating for School Climate for the 2022-2023 school year.*
- 3. To become an effective Professional Learning Community. To engage in collaborative professional learning that will build capacity to understand, evaluate and align all standards to address student needs as measured by district's PLC Model by May 2023.*

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, JHC Butler Elementary and our families will jointly develop a school-family/parent compact, which is an agreement that families, teachers and students will develop that explains how families and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade level standards; attain mastery on the district's iReady Math and Reading assessments in grades K through 5th; and meet achievement levels on the Georgia Milestones (GMAS) state assessment in 3rd through 5th grade reading and math as well as 5th grade science.

The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback and input from parents, students and teachers during our Title I Family Forum that will take place during the Spring. The school-parent compacts are kept with each child's teachers if a parent needs a copy. Additional feedback will be collected on the Annual Title I Survey.



Title I Annual Meeting

The Title I Annual Meeting will be held once each year, to inform parents of the requirements of Title I, the school's participation, and the parents' rights to be involved with Title I programming. Meeting will be held twice in September.

Parent Activities/Workshops

JHC Butler Elementary will provide monthly parent meetings on the second Thursday of each month. The topics of these meetings were chosen based on the parent needs assessment surveys completed at the end of the school year. These sessions will be offered in the evening. The meetings/workshops will address educating parents about the following topics and initiatives:

- Title I Annual Meeting*
- Open House*
- Georgia Standards of Excellence*
- Testing and Assessment (state assessments and benchmark assessments)*
- GMAS/MAP*
- Literacy, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies*
- Reading across the content areas (fiction and non-fiction)*
- Grade level information (promotion to next grade level)*
- Technology in the classroom and parent use of technology*
- Community resources available for parents*
- Health/Healthy Eating*
- Report Card Night/Conferences*

JHC Butler Elementary is committed to helping our parents and families attend the parent and family activities listed in this plan. Please email or call us if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs. Contact: 912-395-2525.

Family Resources

Come in to take a look at the available resources. Parents and families may check out books, study materials, games, and activities to use at home with children. Computers are also available for you to explore the Parent Portal and educational resources. The computers are located in the Main Office and the Learning Commons in the area designated for families. They are available daily from 8:30am-4:30pm.

Extended hours are available upon request.

Parental Involvement

JHC Butler Elementary believes that Family Engagement means the participation of families in regular two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities ensuring that:

- * Parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- * Parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- * Parents and families 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.
- * Other activities are carried out as described in this plan.

"B" is for Butler and Butler is the BEST!

JHC Butler 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. We pledge to:

- ◇ Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is posted on the school website, and included in the weekly school newsletters for all parents.
- ◇ Provide quarterly trainings for staff during professional learning communities on strategies to improve communication with parents, ideas to increase family engagement, improve the value and utility of contributions of families, how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with families and partners, to implement and coordinate family programs and build ties between home and school. Staff will also share best practices during monthly faculty meetings.
- ◇ Partner with Head Start and local Pre-K programs to conduct joint meetings for parents and sending school information about family engagement activities to help prepare parents and their child for Kindergarten and improve school transition.
- ◇ Share information on the school's website and weekly newsletters for parents to better understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ◇ Communicate (two-way) with all families and the school community in a family friendly language and on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, through call-outs and flyers at least two weeks in advance.
- ◇ Work with parents to develop relevant training and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parental family engagement.
- ◇ Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings and activities to help parents and families work with their child to improve their child's achievement .
- ◇ Use our staff to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school's Family Engagement Policy.
- ◇ Collect feedback from parents at all events, place a suggestion box and feedback forms in the school's main office in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for family engagement activities.
- ◇ Meetings will be held in-person and online.
- ◇ Dr. Slay will submit any parent comments to the district if the school's Title I School Improvement Plan is not satisfactory to them.

Family Engagement Standards

JHC Butler Elementary and our parents have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community. The 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

JHC Butler's School Council

JHC Butler Elementary invites all parents to join the School Council to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet four times during the school year, but parents are also invited to submit their ideas or suggestions at any school events, through parent surveys and the website. If you would like to learn more about the School Council, please contact Dr. Slay at 912-395-2525 or complete the interest form and submit to the front of fice.



School Community Team/School Council

____ Yes, I am interested in serving on the School Council.

____ Contact me so I can learn more about the School Council.

____ Send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____



SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this plan that you feel is not satisfactory with the students' and the school's goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the Main Office in the feedback box.

Name: (optional): _____

Telephone Number: (optional) _____

Operation Beacon Volunteer

Program

The Savannah-Chatham County Public School System is looking for volunteers to donate their time at our schools. Volunteers provide valuable resources and experience for our students and create connections that strengthen our schools. See the link below to apply online.

<http://www.sccpss.com/page52.html>

Parent Mentor

A parent mentor is a parent who is willing to help other parents with the educational support and guidance needed in order for children to be successful in school. Parent mentors can help other parents with parenting skills, educational support, communication skills and other areas that parents identify as necessary or needed. The parent mentor can also serve as a liaison between school staff and families.

Parent Mentor Is Made Available Upon Request



BALANCED LITERACY NIGHT— OCTOBER 2022

- Learn how to make reading fun at home, Interpretation of Lexile Results (Reading Scores) and Standardized Testing strategies.

What is Balanced Literacy? Balanced Literacy is an opportunity for teachers and students to use high-interest, engaging books to practice the Georgia English Language Arts Standards of Excellence in reading and writing.



What is Title I?

JHC Butler Elementary 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 in reform and enhance efforts 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 all parents a written family engagement policy.



What is the Family Engagement Policy?

This policy describes how JHC Butler Elementary will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. JHC Butler Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This policy describes the different ways that JHC Butler Elementary will support family engagement and how parents and families can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

Where is it Available?

The Family Engagement Policy will be sent home with each student at the beginning of the school year. It will also be posted on the school website and available in the Main Office and Media Center.



How is the Family Engagement Policy Revised?

JHC Butler Elementary School invites all parents to attend our Parent Forum in the Spring to review, give input and assist with revising the school Family Engagement Policy and School-wide Plan.

The Family Engagement Policy is posted on our school website for parents and families to view and is available in our Main Office and Media Center. Any time during the school year, parents and families may provide input and comments related to the revision of our Family Engagement Policy.

We also distribute an annual evaluation survey which asks parent for their suggestions on school events and the 1% allocation of the funds for family engagement activities. Additionally, any feedback given by parent at events or meetings during the year is used to guide the process of making changes to the school Family Engagement Policy.



For Whom is the Family Engagement Policy?

This Family Engagement Policy is for the parents and families of all students who attend JHC Butler Elementary School. Families are encouraged to participate in all opportunities described in the Family Engagement Policy. JHC Butler Elementary School will provide opportunities for parents who are limited in the English language, parents with disabilities, parent of migratory children and parents who need transportation or child care for school events.

