Sweetwater Middle School

The Plan…

The Promise…

2024-2025

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*Home of the Patriots*

3500 Cruse Road

Lawrenceville, GA, 30017

770-923-4131

https://www.gcpsk12.org/SweetwaterMS

# **What Is a Family AND Community Engagement Plan?**

It is a plan that describes how our school will provide opportunities to improve family engagement that will support student learning at school and at home. All students and their families are invited and encouraged to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. The school will provide information and as many opportunities as possible for the participation of all family members.

# **What is a School–Family Promise?**

It is a written agreement that outlines how the school, the students, and the family will work together to ensure your child’s academic success. An effective School-Family Promise contains the following elements:

* Clear learning goals that are linked to the school’s improvement plan
* Specific skills students will learn during the year
* Strategies that staff, families, and students will use to improve student learning
* Ways to extend learning at home
* Methods teachers and family members will use to communicate about student progress
* Opportunities for family members to observe and participate in the classroom
* Jointly-developed by families, school staff, students, community business partners, and other stakeholders during our Planning Meeting
* Reviewed and revised throughout the year – The School-Family Promise

# **Let’s Talk**

**During the Regular School Year**

*Parent Square, Phone Calls, Text messaging, Class DoJo, Emails through Synergy, and school newsletters*

***During times of Crisis (Digital Learning)***

*Parent Square, Google Voice, Zoom, Talking Points, Text Messaging, the Activity Feed on e-Class Page, Weekly E-mails, Newsletters, and E-mails with Step-by-Step instructions with pictures.*

*If you need interpretation and/or translation services, please contact: Mariah Colon, PIC – 770-806-7814*

# **ActivitIes to Build our Partnership**

Title I Planning Meeting and Annual Meeting

Local School Council

Meet the Teacher

Curriculum Night

Literacy and Math Night

ESOL Parent Info Night

GA Milestones Information Night

Rising 6th Grade Transition Night

Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences – October 2024

Winter Parent-Teacher Conferences – March 2025

Gwinnett County Public Schools TorchEnglish Classes for Parents and Students

Fall Festival, Car Show, and Community Fair

International Night

# **Where is the plan available?**

The Family and Community Engagement Plan and all other Title I information are available on our school’s website at <https://www.gcpsk12.org/SweetwaterMS> under the Title I Section. Families can also find paper copies of this Family and Community Engagement Plan in our Family Engagement Center.

# **How is the plan developed and revised?**

It is reviewed and revised at least annually during the Planning Meeting in the spring. All feedback forms from the Planning Meeting are submitted to the Office of Federal Programs for review. Families who are not able to attend the Planning Meeting have the opportunity to review draft documents and provide input during the draft document review period.

# Communication

All documents and communications are provided to families in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese (when possible), and are presented in a family-friendly format. Flyers and emails are sent to parents to notify them of upcoming meetings and events. Sweetwater also utilizes Twitter and Instagram to post upcoming meetings and workshops. Finally, our electronic marquee also advertises upcoming events.

To schedule a conference or a classroom visit, parents must contact the grade-level clerk. The grade-level clerk will schedule the meeting and notify the parents of the date and time.

6th Grade – Mrs. Obu – 770-806-7811

7th Grade – Mrs.  Irrizary– 770-806-7809

8th Grade – Mrs. Tomlin – 678-380-7228

ENGAGING AND EMPOWERING FAMILIES WITH…

* **Title I Program Information:** Program information is available during the Title I Planning Meeting in the spring and Annual Parent Meetings in the fall, on the school website, and in the Parent Center.
* **Curriculum Information:** Knowing what your child is learning at school is important. We will keep you informed throughout the year about what your child is learning during parent meetings, conferences, eCLASS, and on our school website.
* **Student Progress Monitoring**: The Parent Portal is an online resource that allows families to view grades, attendance, schedules, assessment, and your child’s results, course history, and much more. Monitoring your child’s progress in school is an important way to be engaged.
* **Parent Resources:** We have many resources available for checkout to use at home with your child. We also host several parent workshops to empower you as you work with your child at home.
* **Staff Training**: We will train our staff to effectively communicate with you. Your input on how we train our staff is valuable.
* **Communication**: We will communicate, to the extent feasible, all information with you in a language and format you understand. Whenever possible, we will provide interpreters during parent workshops, and academic events. Translation is available for most documents.
* **Transition Support**: Entering a new school can be scary for both students and families. We will host events to make sure both you and your child are aware of what is expected and how you can prepare as your child transitions to a new school level, college, and career.

# **Did you know?**

* Title I is a federal program designed to support school reform efforts to improve teaching and learning for all students.
* Title I programs are based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support family engagement.
* The Title I Office reserves at least one percent of the district’s allocation to fund family and community engagement programs. The use of these funds is based on suggestions gathered at our spring Planning Meetings from families and community members. Funds are distributed equally to all our Title I schools.
* Childcare and/or transportation may be provided for meetings and school events.



# **our district GOALS**

**Empathy:** Cultural competence, staff and student wellbeing, educator diversity.

**Equity:** Multi-tiered system of supports, opportunity and access, equitable resource allocation.

**Effectiveness:** Results-Based evaluation system, talent management, educational return on investment.

**Excellence:** Preferred education destination, post-secondary and workforce readiness, world-class communication and engagement.

# **Our School goals**

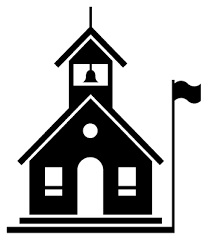
We will provide all students with high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment to meet high academic standards.

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Equity 2A:  Multi-tiered System of Supports -  To provide tiered support in Language Arts and Mathematics to ensure that all students are successful.

* **Targeted Foundational Skills: Students will use exploratory, critical, and analytical reading strategies in all core content areas, at all grade levels. Students will write, interpret, and use expressions, equations, and inequalities, and develop an understanding of statistical thinking**

# **working togetheR TO ENSURE SUCCESS**

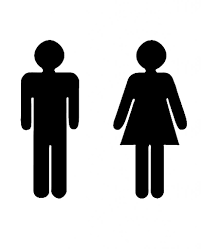
**Sweetwater Middle School**

* Host Intervention workshops focused on the use of various reading material and exploratory, critical, and analytical reading strategies along with student Lexiles to improve students' reading comprehension.
* Assist parents in selecting and using Parent Center resources and online resources that focus on building students reading comprehension and reading stamina.
* Provide parents with training on using Imagine Learning.
* Host workshops in Mathematics to explain the various interventions available to support students in Math.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Principal’s Signature | Date |

***As Students, we will…*** 

* Use various types of reading material, and exploratory, critical, and analytical reading strategies to improve comprehension.
* Use Patriot Time for additional instruction for remediation and enrichment in Mathematics and Literacy
* Attend the Literacy and Math Bootcamps and Interventions that are provided by teachers to improve our scores on district and state assessments.



***As Families, we will…***

* Attend workshops to learn how to use various exploratory, critical, and analytical reading strategies to improve reading comprehension.
* Use various resources to help improve Mathematics computation and reasoning.
* Use resources such as Imagine learning to improve language acquisition for ELL students.

# **Visit our FAMILY ENGAGMENT Center**

Our Family Engagement Center has learning games, books, and many other resources available for families to checkout and use at home. Our Parent Outreach Liaison or Parent Instructional Coordinator is *Mariah Colon.*  She is available to help you find resources, navigate the Parent Portal, connect with teachers, and learn about ways you can help your children at home.

Our Family Engagement Center is located in Rm 1.92 in the front of the school. The hours of operation are 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

Please contact *Mariah Colon* for additional information about our Family Engagement Center and resources available for check-out. Her telephone number is 770-806-7814. Her email is [Mariah.Colon@gcpsk12.org](mailto:Mariah.Colon@gcpsk12.org).



Media Center Volunteer

International Night Heritage Celebrations

Teacher Christmas Appreciation

Teacher Appreciation Week & Field Trips

8th Grade Dance and 8th Grade Day