

**Friendship Elementary School
Parent and Family
Engagement Policy
2019-2020 School Year**

Revised 8/24/2019



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Title I Information

Friendship 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 order to reinforce 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 and family members a written parent and family engagement policy.

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it? This is a plan that describes how Friendship Elementary School will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Friendship Elementary values the involvement of parents and family members in order to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Friendship Elementary School will support parent and family engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it developed? Friendship Elementary invites all parents to attend an annual parent and family engagement input meeting, during Spring, to review and revise this parent and family engagement policy, as well as the school/district consolidated needs assessment, school/district improvement plans, school-parent compact, and the parent and family engagement budget. Additionally, our school welcomes parent input and comments at any time during the school year regarding this plan. All parent feedback received during the school year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and post feedback throughout the year. We also distribute an annual survey online and make paper copies available for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family engagement. Parent and family members can also give feedback to our School Council members and at parent meetings and activities during the school year.

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. Friendship Elementary School will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and families with limited English, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available? At the beginning of the year, after revision, the plan is posted on the school's website, emailed through Infinite Campus, presented at the Annual Title I meeting, and paper copies are provided in the school's front office.

District Goals 2019-2020

1. By the end of FY20, the percentage of students in each subgroup moving into the "Proficient" and "Distinguished" levels of performance on the Georgia Milestones Assessments will increase by 2% in the "Proficient" and "Distinguished" levels of performance.
2. By the end of FY20, the "Closing the Gaps" score will increase by 10% (based on FY19 "Closing the GAPS" score) at each level (elementary, middle, and high).
3. By the end of FY20, the percentage of Economically Disadvantaged students moving into the "Proficient" and "Distinguished" levels of performance on the Georgia Milestones ELA Assessment will increase by 3% in the "Proficient" and "Distinguished" levels of performance

School Goals 2019-2020

1. Increase by 3% the number of students performing at or above proficiency in grades 3-5 as measured by the Math EOG Milestones.
2. Increase by 3% the number of students performing at or above proficiency in grades 3-5 as measured by the EOG Reading Milestones.
3. Increase by 3% the number of students performing at or above proficiency in grades 3-5 as measured by the EOG ELA Milestones.

School-Parent Compact

Friendship Elementary and our families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop together that explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students and teachers during the parent input meeting. The school-parent compacts are shared through the Annual Title I meeting, Infinite Campus, and posted on the school's website. The school-parent compacts are kept in the front office if parents need another copy.

Parent Engagement Program and Activities

2019-2020

Friendship Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

- **September 10, 2019- Importance of learning letters and sight-words Kindergarten, First, and Second Grade, Counselor- Factors Involved in School Success**
Learn how to support your emergent reader and writer at home.
- **October 18, 2019– Report Cards**
Discuss and explain various types of report cards. (standards-based and traditional)
- **October 18, 2019- Title I Annual Meeting**
Join us for an evening of learning about our Title I program including the comprehensive needs assessment, school-wide improvement plan, parent and family engagement policy, and the school-parent compact
- **November 8, 2019– Reading Strategies**
Learn about curriculum, grade-level reading expectations, and ways to monitor your child's progress in the classroom.
- **December 6, 2019 – Access Testing and ELL-TPC meetings**
- **January 24, 2020– Hall County Resources**
Learn about the Parent Portal (Infinite Campus), Launch Point, and other helpful resources provided by Hall County Schools.
- **February 28, 2020 – Math**
Parents will learn about Math standards, as well as helpful ways to support their children at home.
- **March 20, 2020-Internet Safety**
Parents will learn how to ensure their children are using the Internet safely.
- **April 17, 2020- Title I Parent and Family Engagement Input Meeting** Develop and review the consolidated needs assessment, school-wide improvement plan, parent and family engagement policy, the Parent and Family Engagement Budget, and the school-parent compact
- **May 15, 2020- Summer Reading Program-**
Parents will learn strategies for supporting literacy during the summer.
Parent Teacher Conferences – Ongoing throughout the year
Learn about your child's academic progress and how to support your child at home

Definition of Parent and Family Engagement

Friendship Elementary believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and families in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including –

- *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 in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;*

Friendship Elementary is committed to helping our parents and families attend the family activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs.

Dr. Tracie Brack
Principal
770-932-1223 X 7101
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School Measures to Provide Required Assistance

Friendship Elementary will take the following measures to promote and support parents and family members as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will –

- ✓ *Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish, posted on the school website, and included in the monthly school newsletter for all parents.*
- ✓ *Partner with the 9th District Pre-K to share school information about parent engagement activities that will help prepare parents and their child for kindergarten and improve school transition.*
- ✓ *Participate in Canvas professional development modules at least four times a year to educate the staff on parent involvement and parent engagement.*
- ✓ *Communicate with all families and the community on a regular bases regarding school-wide events and activities, such as phone messages, social media, and flyers.*
- ✓ *Offer multiple parent meetings/trainings at convenient times; and provide transportation, child care, or home visits if necessary.*
- ✓ *Provide necessary materials for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement.*
- ✓ *Communicate with parents about academic assessments and provide results and interpretation of testing through the Falcon Flyer and monthly parent meetings.*
- ✓ *Use our Partners in Education, School Council, and Parent Engagement Committee to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the parent and family engagement policy.*
- ✓ *Listen and respond to parent requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.*
- ✓ *Partner with the middle schools to share information about transition from 5th to 6th grade with parents and students.*

Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Friendship 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. These 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

Parent and Family Engagement Committee

___ Yes, I am interested and wish to join the Parent and Family Engagement Committee.

___ Yes, please contact me so I can learn more about the Parent and Family Engagement Committee.

___ Yes, please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

Name: _____

Child's name and Grade: _____

Email address or phone number: _____

Parent and Family Engagement Committee

Friendship Elementary invites all parents to join our parent and family engagement committee to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with the school, families, and the community. The team will meet at least two times during the school year, but parents can also submit their ideas and suggestions at any time. If you would like to learn more about this committee, please contact the principal, Tracie Brack at 770-932-1223 X7101

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:

Name: (optional) _____

Telephone Number: (optional) _____

