**Ben Hill Elementary School**

***Parental Involvement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success***

*2016–2017 School Year*

*Plan Revised October 26, 2016*

*Ben Hill Elementary School*

*Dr. Tracy Barnes, Principal*

*328 Lobingier Drive*

*Fitzgerald, GA 31750*

*(229) 409-5586*

*http://benhillcountyelem.ga.bce.schoolinsites.com/*

**What is Title I?**

Ben Hill Elementary is identified as a Title I school as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards in 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 parental involvement. All

Title I schools must

jointly develop with

all parents a

written parental

involvement

policy.

School Plan for Shared

Student Achievement

**What is it?**

This is a plan that describes how Ben Hill Elementary will provide

opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning.

Ben Hill Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents to

establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student

achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Ben Hill Elementary

will support parent 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 revised?**

Ben Hill Elementary School invited all parents to attend our annual meeting on September 1, 2016\_\_\_\_\_ to review and revise this parental involvement policy, as well as the schoolwide plan, our school-parent compact and the parental involvement budget. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year through an online form. The plan is posted on our school Web site for parents to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We also distribute an annual survey online and by mail to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parental involvement. Parents can also give feedback during several 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. Ben Hill Elementary will provide full opportunity 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 plan is included in the student handbook that is given to all students. The plan will also be posted on the school Web site. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the front office.

**Let’s Get Together!**

Ben Hill Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parental involvement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

Open House – August 4, 2016

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

Annual Title I Meeting and Parent Orientation – September 1, 2016

We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parental involvement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents’ requirements. Then go to a grade appropriate break out session with our teachers to share grade level standards and sharing grade level expectations. Invitations will be sent home and posted on the school’s website.

Grandparent’s Day – September 9, 2016

Come eat lunch with your grandchildren and get to know their teachers and about what is going on at BHES.

Lunch and Learn – October 6, 2016

Learn ways that you can help your child to be a successful student.

Parent-Teacher and Student Conferences – October 11-28, 2016 & March 12-47, 2017

Scheduled updates on your child’s progress.

Pride Programs-October 28, November 18, & December 15, 2016

Come to support your child as they perform a script based on the Character Education Program.

ELA Extravaganza Night – November 17, 2016

A night of learning fun ways to help your child study and practice their language arts skills.

Mission Possible Math Night – January 26, 2017

Learn ways to make math fun!

Book Fair Family Night- January 31, 2017

Come out and enjoy the fun at the BHES media center.

Donuts for Dads-February 24, 2017 & Muffins for Moms-March 3, 2017

Come and enjoy some treats with your child before school to help build your relationship.

Lunch n Learn –March 24, 2017

Gain knowledge about topics relevant to your child’s education.

Second Grade Orientation-May 9, 2017

Connect with the parents and students who are rising 3rd graders

student success.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Ben Hill Elementary and our families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop 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 teacher.

The school-parent

compacts are kept

with each child’s

teacher if parents

need a copy.

2016–17 School Goals

All students in grades 3-5 will make one year’s growth in reading as measured by individual student performance.

All students in grades 3-5 will make one year’s growth in math as measured by individual student performance.

Ben Hill Elementary is committed to helping our

parents attend the parental 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.

(229) 409-5586

**Parent Resource Center**

Come visit the Parent Resource Center at the BOE to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child. Computers are available for parents to explore the Parent Portal and educational resources.

Monday – Friday, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm

Parental Involvement

Ben Hill Elementary believes that parental involvement means the participation of parents 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.
* That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school.
* That 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.
* The carrying out of other activities as described in this plan.

**Ben Hill Elementary is Branching Out!**

Ben Hill 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 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.
* Provide monthly trainings for staff during their planning periods on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
* Partner with Communities in Schools by sending school information about parent engagement activities to help prepare parents and their child for kindergarten and improve school transition.
* Share information in English and Spanish on the school website and in the school newsletters for parents to understand the school’s academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child’s progress and work with educators.
* Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, through phone messages, social media, and flyers.
* Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parental involvement.
* Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child’s achievement.
* Use our Partners in Education to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parental involvement policy.
* Offer literacy and computer classes for parents to help further enhance their various educational levels.
* Collect feedback from parents at all events and post suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents’ requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.

**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)

**BHES School Council**

* Yes, I am interested and wish to join the School Council
* Please contact me so I can learn more joining the School Council
* Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates

Name:

Child’s Name and Grade:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email address:

Ben Hill Elementary

School Council

Ben Hill 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 school council will meet four times during the school year, but parents can also submit their ideas or suggestions at any school activities and meetings, as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the School Council , please contact the principal at (229) 409-5586 or complete the interest form and leave it in the Main Office.

Parental Involvement Standards

Ben Hill 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