



*Bowdon Middle School*

## Parent and Family Engagement Plan 2017-2018

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### **What is Title I?**

Bowdon Middle 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 the challenging state academic standards 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. With parents and faculty members, all Title I schools develop a written parent and family engagement policy to support these efforts.

### **What is a Parent and Family Engagement Plan?**

This is a plan that describes how Bowdon Middle will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. BMS values the contributions and involvement of parents and family members to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that BMS will support 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 revised?**

BMS invited all parents to attend our annual Title I Draft Development Meeting. In this meeting, drafts of the School Improvement Plan, School-Parent Compact, and Parent and Family Engagement Plan were reviewed, and input was taken. Additionally, these plans are posted online, and parent feedback is accepted during the year. BMS also distributes an annual survey to ask parents for suggestions on how to best utilize funds and services.



*We want you!*

Bowdon Middle School is committed to helping our parents and families attend the family activities listed in this policy. Please call or email us if you need assistance with child care or transportation in order to participate in our programs.

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### **What do parents offer BMS?**

The input and contributions of parents are invaluable to Bowdon Middle. BMS works hard to reach out and communicate with parents regarding academic achievement, goals, and activities in order to engage parents in the process and strengthen the ties between home and school. Parents offer solid feedback from a unique perspective among BMS stakeholders, making their requests for activities, thoughts on strategies, and ideas related to instruction vital to the continued improvement of BMS.

### **How will the plan be shared with parents?**

The Parent and Family Engagement Plan will be shared at the Annual Title I Meeting and also posted on the school website, Facebook, and Twitter. Copies will also be available in the Parenting Center.

Parents may schedule an appointment, at any time, to meet with the Title I Family Engagement Coordinator. Parents may also participate in School Council Meetings, Student Led Conference (Fall 2017 and Winter 2018) and Parent Involvement Meetings. Parents are encouraged to make suggestions related to the education of their children. Any issues or concerns related to the Schoolwide Plan can be shared via email, written request, or verbally at the school. Complaint procedures can also be found on the school website.

### **What does Title I look like in the classroom?**

Numerous opportunities provided by Title I supplement regular classroom instruction. One-to-one technology, programs such as ThinkCERCA, IXL, and Renaissance Learning, and collaborative learning sessions extend instruction and allow teachers to individualize lessons.

Assessments are used throughout the year to evaluate progress and guide instruction. District common assessments, in addition to STAR tests and Assesslets are utilized to provide data related to student growth and achievement on state academic standards.

### **What does BMS offer parents?**

Bowdon Middle School will distribute information that will include dates of Georgia Milestone Assessment to be administered during Spring 2018, an explanation of scores or levels reported, and grade level expectations for the Georgia Standards of Excellence and Common Core Georgia Performance Standards. Meetings will be held with parents independently, by grade level, or in a large group setting to provide explanation of tests and scores to parents. Parents will be provided timely information regarding upcoming opportunities during which they may ignite discussion and provide input into their child's education.





## 2017-2018 School Goals

### **BMS will:**

- Increase by 3% the number of students scoring at or above proficiency in all content areas and writing subcategories (3 or 4 points indicates proficiency) by the end of the 2017-2018 school year.
- Improve by 5% the number of students with chronic absences (missing more than 15 days) and/or chronic discipline issues (more than 3 referrals) within the 2017-2018 school year.

### **The focus for BMS is:**

- Reading and textual literacy
- Writing in all content areas
- Collaboration amongst teachers to improve instruction



### **School-Parent Compact**

As a part of our commitment to students and families, Bowdon Middle School and our stakeholders developed a school-parent compact, which is an agreement between parents, teachers, and students to make sure everyone knows his/her role in providing a premier education. The compact is reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from teachers, students, and parents during our Title I meeting in July. These documents are signed by parents and students and utilized as a reminder of the shared responsibility.

### **Parent Resource Center**

Come and visit the Parent Resource Center to find valuable resources to support student learning. Computers are also available for parents to explore Parent Portal and other online tools.

**Monday – Friday, 8:00 – 4:00**

## *Come Join Us!*

### **September 12, 2017 – Annual Title I Meeting**

We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements.

### **October 23-27, 2017 – Fall Student-Led Conferences**

Parents are invited to join students as they present their progress and set academic and behavior goals for the year.

### **November 14, 2017 – STEAM Night**

Join our students and teachers as we explore the wonders of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math.

### **March 19-23, 2018 – Spring Student-Led Conferences**

Parents are invited to join students as they present their progress and set academic and behavior goals for the year.

### **May, 2018 – Middle School Readiness Night**

Upcoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents visit BMS to learn about expectations, schedules, requirements, and opportunities available in middle school.



