

Ithaca Elementary School

Parent and Family Engagement Plan



2017-2018

Revision Date: September 5, 2017

Ithica Elementary School

Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success

2017–2018 School Year

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Plan Revised September 5, 2017

What is Title I?

Ithica 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 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. All Title I schools must jointly develop with 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 Ithica Elementary will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Ithica Elementary 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 Ithica Elementary 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?

Ithica Elementary School invited all parents to attend our Annual Schoolwide Title I Meeting as well as a Title I Parent and Stakeholder Input Meeting in the spring of 2017 and in July 2017 to review and revise this parent and family engagement policy, as well as the schoolwide plan, our school-parent compact, and the 1% parental involvement budget. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year through written feedback. The plan is posted on our school website 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 to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family engagement. Parents and family members 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. Ithica Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, and of migratory children.

Where is it available?

At the beginning of the year, the plan is available for review in the front office and online at our school website. As a reminder, we will email the plan to all parents in September after an opportunity for feedback is given to all stakeholders. The final copy of the plan will be posted on the school website and social media. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Center and our front office.

2017–18 District Goals

All students will meet or exceed the state average on the Georgia Milestones state assessment in all content areas.

2017–18 School Goals

Meet or exceed the state average on Georgia Milestones state assessments in all content areas.

Improve student performance in literacy

Improve student performance in writing

Improve student performance in math

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Ithica 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 teachers during annual input meetings. The school-parent compacts are also sent home with each student and a school-parent compact agreement is signed by student and parents.

Let's Get Together!

Ithica 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. Meetings for parents and family members will be held at a variety of times to accommodate all family members.

Annual Title I Meeting – July 20, 2017

We invite you to learn about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and school parent compact. Invitations will be posted on the school website, social media, and via School Messenger.

IES Tailgate Party – July 28, 2017

Join the IES community for a evening of food and fun as we prepare to start the school year. Say hello to old friends and meet new ones at this exciting family event.

Curriculum Night – August 21, 2017

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

Doughnuts and Discussion- New Parents – September 27, 2017

Learn helpful information about IES to prepare your child for a successful year.

Doughnuts and Discussion – Reading Strategies -October 18, 2017

Talk with teachers about learning to read and reading to learn.

Parent Training- Cyber Safety – October 23, 2017

Guest speaker will share information about how parents can help their child use the internet safely.

Parent Training-Bullying – November 13, 2017

Attend a training to learn about bullying and bullying prevention.

Doughnuts and Discussion- Understanding Google– December 4, 2017

Learn about all things Google.

Math/Science Night – January 22, 2018

Play math games and complete science experiments at this fun night for all families.

Parent Meeting –Testing- February 26, 2018

Let's get ready for testing! Help learn strategies to prepare your children for End of Grade testing.

Wax Museum – March 19, 2018

Come and meet important historical figures as they share facts about their lives.

Title I Parent Input Meeting – March 4, 2018

A celebration of family engagement and the recognition of its impact on school and student success.

Step Up to K Night – May 14, 2018

Upcoming K parents learn about the expectations for K students at IES. Prepare yourself for the transition to K at IES.



Parent Resource Center

Come visit the Parent Resource Center to check out family board games, educational resources, books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child. Volunteer opportunities exist for parents while visiting the parent center.

Monday – Friday, 7:10 am – 4:00 pm

Parent and Family Engagement

Ithica Elementary believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members 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.

Ithica Elementary 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. We may have a solution for you.

Brad Corbett
(678) 840-5101 or
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Ithica Elementary is Branching Out!

Ithica 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 families.
- ✓ Provide trainings for staff during their planning periods on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement with reading and math activities for our students outside of the classroom. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- ✓ Partner with early childhood programs, middle and high schools, college and career ready resources or organizations, parent resource centers, or other programs (as applicable) to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.
- ✓ Share information on the school website, newsletter, and social media 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 parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.
- ✓ 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 faculty and staff to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement policy.
- ✓ Offer literacy and computer classes for parents and family members to help further enhance their various educational levels.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents and family members at events, Title I parent and student surveys, and post suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.



Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Ithica 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

School Community Team

Ithica Elementary invites all parents to join a School Community Team to share ideas and ways to involve other parents and family members to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet four times during the school year, but parents and family members can also submit their ideas or suggestions at any school activities and meetings, as well as through our parent survey and website. If you would like to learn more about the School Community Team, please contact Mr. Corbett at (678) 840-5101 or complete the interest form and leave it in the Main Office.



School Community Team

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the School Community Team.
- Please contact me so I can learn more in joining the School Community Team.
- Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade: _____

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 policy 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) _____

