

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT 2016-2017

Third Grade Focus For Student Success



Sweetwater Elementary School
2505 East County Line Road
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(770) 651-4600
<http://sweetwater.dce.schoolinsites.com/>

Teresa Martin, Principal

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Building Partnerships

Sweetwater Elementary School provides many opportunities that parents can utilize to help their children succeed. The **Parent Resource Center** (PRC) offers a variety of resources such as educational games, books, workbooks and other materials. Parents may use materials in the center, or they may take advantage of the lending library to check out resources for home use. There are also parent workshops and meetings scheduled throughout the year that include topics such as Social Studies, Class Conferences, Math & Science, Homework Help and Test Taking Strategies. The Parent Post is a newsletter that is sent home that includes more information on family engagement activities at our school.

Communication about Student Learning

Sweetwater Elementary School is committed to frequent two-way communication with families about children's learning. Some of the ways you can expect us to reach you include the following:

- Sweetwater teachers will utilize agendas as a communication tool.
- A weekly communication folder will be sent home with evaluated work, announcements, newsletters, and an overview of students' citizenship and work habits for the week.
- Parent-teacher conferences will be held twice per school year.
- Progress reports and report cards will be issued quarterly.
- Updates will be posted on the school and district websites.
- Parent Link, Twitter, NotifyMe, flyers, and signage are also used.

What is a School Parent Compact?

The School-Parent Compact is an agreement that parents, students, school staff, and teachers develop together. It explains how parents, students, and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards.

The Sweetwater Elementary School Parent Compact:

- Is linked to the goals on the school improvement plan
- Focuses on student learning skills
- Describes how teachers will help students develop those skills using high-quality instruction
- Shares strategies parents can use at home
- Explains how teachers and parents will communicate about student progress
- Describes opportunities for parents to volunteer, observe, and participate in the classroom

How is the School Parent Compact Developed?

Sweetwater Elementary School parents, students, staff, and teachers contributed to the development of this Compact. Teachers suggested home learning strategies, parents added ideas to make them more specific, and students told us what would help them. Meetings are held throughout the year to review the Compact and make changes based on input received. Parents can contribute ideas at any time using our Comment Cards (housed in the Parent Resource Center or in the main office). For more information about the Compact or about submitting input, please contact the Instructional Lead Teacher at Sweetwater Elementary School at (770) 651-4647.

Our Goals for Student Achievement

Douglas County School System - Title I

The percentage of students scoring at Developing Learner or above on the Georgia Milestones (GMAS) English Language Arts End of Grade Assessments will increase by five percentage points.

Sweetwater Elementary School Goals

The percentage of students scoring at Developing Learner or above on the GMAS in English Language Arts and Mathematics will increase by five percentage points.

Focus Areas for Third Grade

To achieve our goals, the focus areas for third grade will be:

- Improving reading fluency and Lexiles levels
- Learning multiplication /divisions facts and solving multi-step word problems.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

At Sweetwater Elementary, parents are encouraged to volunteer and participate in their child's classroom. We request that you schedule these visits with the teacher at least one day ahead to make certain there are no conflicts with testing or other events. Parents have the opportunity to call, send notes, or email to request to volunteer or observe in the classroom. A brief training is required to volunteer at school.

TEACHERS, PARENTS, STUDENTS TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS

IN OUR 3RD GRADE CLASSROOM

The 3rd grade team will work with students and families to support student success in reading and math. To promote connections with families, teachers will:

- Work with students and parents to develop goals for reading, math, and behavior.
- Share MyOn login information and Lexile reading levels for each student to use at home.
- Share with parents note taking and study skills techniques taught in class so that parents can reinforce these concepts at home when supervising homework.
- Provide parents with graded work in the weekly folder and suggest areas that need improvement.
- Suggest ways to review multiplication and division facts at home including checking out electronic devices from the Parent Resource Center and using the Xtramath and iPass programs.

AT HOME

Sweetwater parents and staff developed ideas about how families can support student success in reading and math. Families may also add to this list. Parents will:

- Work with teacher and student to develop and achieve goals for reading, math, and behavior.
- Read with their child at least 15-30 minutes every day on the appropriate reading level and ask questions about the book to improve comprehension. Parents will encourage student to read on MyOn at home.
- Practice note taking and study skills with their child at home while doing homework and ensure child completes all homework.
- Review graded work to determine understanding and work at home on skills that need improvement.
- Review multiplication and division facts at home daily using methods recommended by teacher.

SWEETWATER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Sweetwater students, staff, and parents developed ideas about how students can succeed in school and reach for the stars in reading and math. To make connections between learning at home and school, students will:

- Help develop goals for reading, math, and behavior and work hard all year to achieve these goals.
- Read with parents at least 15-30 minutes every day and discuss the book.
- Complete all homework and use note taking and study skills learned in class.
- Work at home to correct problems on graded work.
- Review multiplication and division facts every day at home.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS?

It is our goal to provide reasonable access to school staff. Please see the contact information below for our 3rd grade teachers. Email addresses are formatted First.Last@douglas.k12.ga.us.

Chris Boberg 770-651-4695

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