

## 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) 651-4659.

## 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, 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.

DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

# SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT 2016-2017

## Kindergarten Focus For Student Success



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Teresa Martin, Principal

Revised September 1, 2016

## 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 Kindergarten

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

- Learning to read using sight words and phonics
- Learning to count, recognize numbers and shapes, and add and subtract through 10

## 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 KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOM

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

- Send homework assignments home in binders every Monday.
- Send home a sight word ring or list for at-home review of specific words tailored to each child's needs.
- Share with parents some strategies to improve fluency and comprehension including phonics, guided reading, and programs such as MyOn and iLearn.
- Inform parents of ways to incorporate counting and math in everyday situations.
- Suggest ways parents can point out shapes in the real world which correspond to the two and three-dimensional shapes we are covering in class.

### AT HOME

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

- Check child's agenda and supervise homework daily.
- Review sight words using the sight word ring or list.
- Read with their child at least 15 minutes every day. Parents should have their child point to each word as he/she reads. Discuss the main idea and details of the story to build comprehension. Parents can use MyOn and iLearn programs at home.
- Find opportunities every day at home for child to practice counting, recognizing numbers, and using basic addition/subtraction in real-world situations (while cooking, making lists, shopping, etc.).
- Point out shapes in the real world and ask their child to name the shapes.

### 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:

- Complete homework daily.
- Review sight words daily.
- Read with parents at least 15 minutes every day and discuss the story.
- Practice counting and math problems at home with parents.
- Look for shapes in the real world and name those shapes.

### 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 kindergarten teachers. Email addresses are formatted First.Last@douglas.k12.ga.us.

Pam Bryant 770-651-4667

Denise Wellman 770-651-4668

Jennifer Roberts 770-651-4651

Jeannie McDougal 770-651-4642 (For email, use Betty McDougal)