

# Blackshear Elementary School

## Parent & Family Engagement Plan for Shared Student Achievement

2017-2018 School Year  
Plan Revised April 17, 2017  
5217 Highway 121 N, Blackshear, GA. 31516  
<http://bes.pierce.k12.ga.us/>  
Ms. Tonya Johnson, Principal  
(912) 449-2088



**What is it?** This document is a plan that describes how **Blackshear Elementary School** will provide opportunities to improve parent & family engagement to support student learning. **BES** values the contributions and involvement of parents & family members in order to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways **BES** will implement meaningful consultation with parents, family members, students, school staff, employers, business leaders, philanthropic organizations and other stakeholders to support parent and family engagement and how families can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

**How is it developed?** **BES** welcomes parent and family member input and comments at any time regarding our plan to involve parents and families. All parent and family member feedback will be considered for the revision of the plan each year. Our plan is posted on our school website for all to view and provide input throughout the school year. Suggestions may be emailed to [dtreadwell@perce.k12.ga.us](mailto:dtreadwell@perce.k12.ga.us) or sent back to the school office using the online stakeholder feedback form provided on the **BES** webpage. Parents and families are invited to attend our **BES** Café meetings to give feedback about our parent and family engagement activities, and to review and revise this plan, the schoolwide plan, our school-parent compacts, the district parent and family engagement plan, and the parent and family engagement budget. We also distribute an annual survey to get input and suggestions on this plan and the use of funds for parent and family engagement.

**Who is it for?** All **BES** students and families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. **BES** will provide full opportunities for participation of parents & family members with limited English proficiency, economically disadvantaged, limited literacy, any racial or ethnic minority background, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children, when feasible.

**Where is it available?** The plan is included in the student handbook which is given to all students at the beginning of the school year and to new students upon enrollment. Families may request a copy of this plan in the **BES** front office, and/or view a copy on the **BES** website.

## What is Title I?

*Pierce County Schools are identified as a Title I school district as part of Section 1116 of the Every Child Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging State academic standards in order to 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 parent and family engagement. All Title I schools must work together with all families to develop a written parent and family engagement plan.*

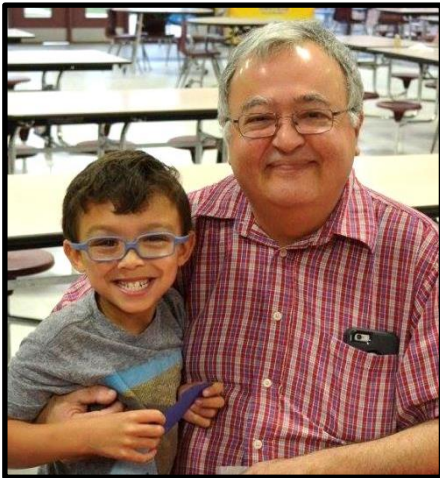
## 2017-2018 District Goals

- ✓ High Academic Achievement
- ✓ Quality Teachers, Administrators, and Staff
- ✓ Supportive Learning Environment
- ✓ Effective, Efficient Operations
- ✓ Strong Parental & Community Support
- ✓ College & Career Readiness

**BES...**

***Where Excellence is the Standard!***

## School-Parent Compacts



As part of this plan, **BES** and our families will develop grade level school-parent compacts. These compacts are agreements developed by parents, family members, teachers, and students to explain how parents, families, and teachers will work together to ensure all students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, family members, students, and teachers during **BES** Parent Café meetings. Copies of the compacts are kept by all teachers and reviewed with parents during parent/teacher conferences throughout the year. Copies of compacts are sent home with all students, posted on the **BES** website and may be obtained in the front office.

### **Blackshear Elementary School**

welcomes parent and family member input and comments at any time regarding the following: **BES** & District Parent & Family Engagement Plans, the District Consolidated Application (CLIP), the **BES** Schoolwide Plan, the School-Parent Compacts, the District Needs Assessment, and the use of the required 1% of parent & family engagement funds.

## Let's Get Together!

**BES** will host the following events during this school year in an effort to build the capacity for strong parent and family engagement. We support a true partnership between our school, parents, family members, and community for the purpose of improving student academic achievement. *Please look for additional events, dates and times which are not listed below in school newsletters, notes, and flyers sent home with your child. We encourage you to visit our BES website and Facebook page regularly.*



### **Pre-K Orientation – Thursday, July 27, 2017 at 5:30 PM**

- ✓ Learn about the Pre-K Program and meet your child's teacher.

### **BES ESOL/Migrant Open House – Tuesday, August 1, 2017 at 6:00 PM**

- ✓ Parents will have time to meet with our BES ESOL teacher and other support teachers. This is also an opportunity to meet with the system-wide translator and complete all necessary enrollment paperwork in their native language. Parents will find this a good time to ask questions of the teachers and administrators about the upcoming school year.

### **Open House - Thursday, August 3, 2017**

- ✓ Tour the school, visit the classrooms, and meet your child's teachers along with our helpful, friendly, school staff.

### **Welcome Tours - Offered to new students enrolling at BES and their parents**

- ✓ Learn helpful information to prepare for a successful year at BES

### **School Council Meetings**

- ✓ Attend one or more of these meetings to learn more about the management and operations of our school and share your ideas and suggestions.
- ✓ We review our school-wide plan, yearly academic goals, and overall school data.
- ✓ Meetings will be held on these Thursday mornings at 7:30 AM.

**August 17, 2017    September 28, 2017    November 30, 2017    February 8, 2018    April 12, 2018**

### **Annual Title I Extravaganza - Thursday, August 31, 2017 at 5:30 PM**

Invitations will be sent to all families, posted on the **BES** website, in grade level newsletters, and in the local print media. Rotations will include sessions for parents, family members, and other stakeholders regarding:

- 1) *What is Title I, and how parents/families are important partners in educating students?*
  - ✓ Receive information about our Title I program, our Parent & Family Engagement and schoolwide plans, school-parent compacts and opportunities for parents/families to be active partners in educating students and making decisions for BES.
- 2) *What curriculum will my child learn this year?*
  - ✓ Spend time learning the daily schedule and classes in your child's instructional day.
  - ✓ Learn how to monitor your child's grades and academic progress.
- 3) *What assessments will my child take during the 2017-2018 school year?*
  - ✓ Learn of assessments administered in different grades during the year. Examples include DIBELS, SRI, County Benchmarks, Georgia Milestones Assessments, ACCESS, etc.

### **Mentor & Volunteer Training - Friday, September 1, 2017 at 9:00 AM**

- ✓ Receive training & information to prepare you to be an effective volunteer/mentor.
- ✓ Mentors and volunteers can be trained during the school year. If you are interested, please contact Sherry Bowen, our school counselor, at (912) 449-2088.

### **"Table Talk" Workshops**

- ✓ Join us for a delicious lunch while learning how to support your child's educational success. Workshops are open to all Pierce County families! Invitations are sent to all families and posted on the **BES** website. Lunch is sponsored by our community partners. All workshops begin at **12:00 noon**.

**Date: 9/06/17**

**Location: Pierce County High**

**Topic: Assessment, Graduation & Beyond**

**Date: 10/4/17**

**Location: Patterson Elementary**

**Topic: Literacy & Reading Strategies**

**Date: 11/09/17**

**Location: Blackshear Elementary**

**Topic: Math Strategies to Help your Child**

**Date: 2/7/18**

**Location: Midway Elementary**

**Topic: Technology Tips**

### **Celebrate Parent and Family Engagement Month- November 2017**

- ✓ We invite parents/families to come to school and eat Thanksgiving lunch with their child.

### **ESOL Assessment Night -Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 6:00 PM**

- ✓ Meet with your child's teachers to learn more about upcoming WIDA Assessments and learn various strategies and ways you can help your child succeed at school.

### **BES Cafés**

- ✓ Our **BES** Cafés will focus on what matters. During the **BES** Cafés, we will have authentic conversations to build relationships and discuss ways to improve students' academic achievement and our parent & family engagement activities. Everyone's input, suggestions and feedback are vital in addressing the needs and concerns of all stakeholders. Also, the **BES** Cafés will provide opportunities for you to assist in revising elements of our Title I program plans, school-parent compacts, and budget. Join us for either our **1:00PM or 2:45 PM** meeting (whichever is more convenient for you) on the following dates:

**Thursday, February 1, 2018**

**Tuesday, May 1, 2018**

### **Kindergarten Kickoff (Transition Night) - Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 5:30 PM**

- ✓ Orientation to prepare previous Pre-K students, other five-year olds, and their families for kindergarten at **BES**. Students and families tour the school including the kindergarten hallway, cafeteria, media center, and multipurpose room.

### **Moving to Middle School – Thursday, May 3, 2018 @ 5:30 PM**

- ✓ Orientation for next year's 6th grade parents and family members to discuss the transition from elementary to middle school. More information will be advertised on the BES and PCMS websites, Facebook pages, and sent home with your child.
- ✓ Digital Footprint Discussion/Social Media Discussion

## Parent & Family Engagement

**BES** believes that parent and family engagement is the participation of parents/families in regular two-way and meaningful communication. This involves student academic learning and other school activities ensuring that...

1. Parents and family members play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
2. Parents and family members are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
3. Parents and family members are 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;
4. Other activities as described in this plan are carried out.



### Parent Resource Room

Please visit the Parent Resource Room at **BES** in the **Media Center**. You may check out books, study materials, and games/activities for use at home with your child. **Monday-Friday, 7:30AM-3:00PM**



Check out our "**Virtual**" Pierce County Family Resource Room on Pinterest for engaging resources to support your child's learning at home! Our "**Virtual**" resource room has valuable activities for grades PreK-12, including instructional videos from Pierce County teachers! Visit the site today at... [www.pinterest.com/pcresourceroom/](http://www.pinterest.com/pcresourceroom/)

### Parent & Family Engagement Standards

**BES** and our families have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, family members, students, and the community. These standards are:

- Welcoming All Families
- Communicating Effectively
- Supporting Student Success
- Speaking Up for Every Child
- Sharing Power
- Collaborating with Community

***BES** is committed to helping our families attend the parent & family engagement activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare in order to participate in our programs. **912.449.2088** ~*

*[bes.pierce.k12.ga.us](http://bes.pierce.k12.ga.us)*



## **BES Supports Our Parents!**

***BES** will take the following measures to promote and support parents/families 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/family programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish (to the extent feasible), and posted on the school website and included in grade level newsletters.
- ✓ Provide staff development on parent and family engagement practices and effective strategies for staff to improve communication with parents/families and ideas to increase parent and family engagement.
- ✓ Partner with Head Start and other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs to share school information about parent and family engagement activities that will help prepare parents, family members, and their child for kindergarten and improve school transition.
- ✓ Partner with Pierce County Middle School to share school information about parent and family engagement activities that will help prepare parents/families and their child for middle school and improve school transition.
- ✓ Share information in English and Spanish (to the extent feasible) on the school website and in the grade level newsletters for parents/families to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents/families can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, such as newsletters, social media, flyers, student agendas and Remind.
- ✓ Work with our parents/families to develop relevant trainings and presentations to educate our staff and families on the importance of parent and family engagement. Listen and respond to parents'/families' requests for additional support for their child's academic needs.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials for parents/families at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents/families work with their child to improve their child's academic achievement.
- ✓ Collaborate with community leaders and business groups to increase participation and awareness of the school parent and family engagement plan and activities.
- ✓ Use BES Cafés to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement plan.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents/families at school events, input cards deposited in the suggestion box in the main lobby, and stakeholder feedback forms collected in order to respond to parents'/families' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.

## BES Café Meetings

**BES** invites all parents and families to join the BES Café meetings to share ideas and ways to involve other parents and families to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The meetings will occur twice during the school year, but anyone can submit ideas or suggestions during all activities and meetings as well as through our parent surveys, website, and suggestion box. If you would like to learn more about BES Cafés, please contact Dee Treadwell, Assistant Principal, at **912.449.2088** or complete the "**Sign Me Up!**" form below.



## 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 or leave your comments in the **Suggestion Box** located in the main office.

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### *Optional*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## Sign Me Up!

**Please complete below and return to your child's teacher.**

- Yes, I wish to join the BES Parent Café team.
- Please contact me so I can learn more about joining the BES Parent Café team.
- Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.
- I would like to be involved in the following: (circle all that apply)
  - Mentoring a child
  - Guest Reader
  - Music Practices and Rehearsals
  - School Clean Up Days
  - Courtyard Beautification
  - Recycling Program
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_



My Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My Child(ren)'s Name(s) and Grade(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Time Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_