

Pierce County Middle School

2017-2018 School Year
Plan Revised May 12, 2017

Parent & Family Engagement Plan for Shared Student Achievement

5216 County Farm Road, Blackshear, GA. 31516
<http://pcms.pierce.k12.ga.us/>
Mr. Perry Tison, Principal
(912) 449-2077



What is it? This document is a plan that describes how **Pierce County Middle School** will provide opportunities to improve parent & family engagement to support student learning. **PCMS** 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 **PCMS** will implement meaningful consultation with parents, family members, students, school staff, 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? **PCMS** 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 families to view and give input throughout the year. Parents and family members can email suggestions to ldenison@pcms.pierce.k12.ga.us or send a copy of the online stakeholder feedback form to the school office. We also distribute an annual survey to all families to ask for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent and family engagement. During our **PCMS** Café meetings, families are able to give feedback about our parent and family engagement activities, and to review and revise this Parent and Family Engagement Plan, as well as the school wide plan, our school-parent compact, the district parent and family engagement plan, and the parent and family engagement budget for the upcoming school year.

Who is it for? All **PCMS** students and families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. **PCMS** 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? At the beginning of the year, the plan is included in the student handbook that is given to all students. Also, it is distributed in the local community. Parents & family members can request a copy of the plan at the front desk, view a copy on the **PCMS** website, or retrieve a copy in the Family Resource Center.

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, & Staff
- ✓ Supportive Learning Environment
- ✓ Effective, Efficient Operations
- ✓ Strong Parental & Community Support
- ✓ College & Career Readiness

PCMS...

***Where Excellence is
the Standard***

School-Parent Compacts



As part of this plan, **PCMS** and our families will develop a school-parent compact. This compact is an agreement that parents, family members, teachers and students will develop explaining how parents, family members and teachers will work together to make sure 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 Parent Cafés meetings. The compacts are sent home at the beginning of the school year with a signature sheet signed by teachers, parents, family members and students. The signature sheet is returned to the homeroom teacher while the compact is for families to keep and refer to throughout the year. Each teacher has a copy of the compact to review with families during parent/teacher conferences. A copy of the compact is also posted on the school website.

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



Let's Get Together!

PCMS will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parent and family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, family members, and the community to improve student academic achievement. Look for dates and times not listed below on PCMS website, Facebook, and sent home with your child.

Camp Bear- Tuesday, August 1, 2017

- ✓ Transition from the fifth grade to sixth grade during Camp Bear. All new 6th graders are invited to attend PCMS for ½ day the week before school starts. Students are oriented about policies and procedures and meet team teachers.

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.

PCMS Cafés

- ✓ Our **PCMS** Cafés will focus on what matters. Everyone's input, suggestions, and feedback is vital in addressing the needs and concerns of all stakeholders. During the **PCMS** Cafés, we will have authentic conversations to help build relationships and discuss ways to improve students' academic achievement, and our parent & family engagement activities. Also, the **PCMS** Cafés will provide opportunities for you to assist in revising elements of our Title I program plans, school-parent compact, and budget. Join us for meetings at either **1:00 p.m. or 3:15 p.m.** on the following dates:

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Title I Extravaganza- Thursday, September 14, 2017 5:30 p.m.

- ✓ We invite you to a time of learning and sharing about our Title I program including our parent & family engagement plan, the school wide plan, the school-parent compacts and parents' requirements. Invitations will be sent to all families and posted on the school website, the PCMS Facebook page, and with the local media.
- ✓ Ask the questions you didn't realize you had during Open House
- ✓ Learn how to monitor your child's progress: Checking Infinite Campus Parent Portal, setting up REMIND, and Goggle Classroom
- ✓ Georgia Milestones and other assessment information
- ✓ Understanding what my child is learning in school
- ✓ Introduction to GA College 411 and Graduation Plans

Mentor & Volunteer Training-Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

- ✓ Receive training and pertinent information to prepare you to be the best volunteer and/or mentor you can be!
- ✓ Volunteers and Mentors can also be trained throughout the school year by contacting the school office at (912) 449-2077.

New Student/Parent Breakfast-Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

- ✓ Learn helpful information to prepare for a successful school year at PCMS as a new student and parent.

New Student/Parent Tours - Offered as needed when new students enroll at PCMS.

- ✓ Learn helpful information to prepare for a successful school year at PCMS as a new student and parent.

"Table Talk" Workshops

- ✓ Join us for a delicious lunch while gaining knowledge 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 school websites. 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: Pierce County Middle

Topic: Technology Tips

8th Grade Registration/Orientation Night –Tuesday, February 27, 2018 – 5:30 p.m.

- ✓ Upcoming freshmen and their families are invited to attend this informative session to gather information about the high school registration process, graduation requirements, and other academic opportunities such as CTAE pathways and honor classes.
- ✓ Also, students and families will learn how students can "plug in" to extra-curricular activities such as: athletics, band, theater, and clubs (FFA, FCCLA, FBLA, FCA, HOSA, BETA, Student Council, Film Club).

Celebrate Parent Engagement Month-November 2017

- ✓ We invite parents & family members to come to school and eat Thanksgiving lunch with their child.

Band Concerts-held in December & May

- ✓ More information will be advertised on the PCMS website, Facebook page, and sent home with your child.

Athletic (February 23, 2018 & May 18, 2018) & Academic (May 22, 2018) Awards

Ceremonies

- ✓ Award ceremonies to recognize students with outstanding achievements.

Moving to Middle School-Thursday, May 3, 2018 – 5:30 p.m.

- ✓ 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 PCMS website, Facebook page, and sent home with your child.
- ✓ Digital Footprint Discussion/Social Media Discussion

Parent and Family Engagement

PCMS believes that parent and family engagement is the participation of 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 Center

Come visit the Parent Resource Center in the Media Center at PCMS to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child. Computers are available for parents to check their student's grades on the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.



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 Pre-K through 12th grades including instructional videos from Pierce County teachers! Visit it today at...

www.pinterest.com/pcresourceroom/



Parent & Family Engagement Standards

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

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

***PCMS** is committed to helping our parents/families attend the activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare and/or translation services, when feasible, in order to participate in our programs.*

912.449.2077 ~ ~Lanna Denison

[**ldenison@pierce.k12.ga.us**](mailto:ldenison@pierce.k12.ga.us)

Translations Services – Alicia Sweat ~

(912) 281-3249



PCMS Supports Our Families!

PCMS 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 family programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish (to the extent feasible), and posted on the school website.
- ✓ Conduct staff development on parent & family engagement practices and effective strategies for staff to improve communication with families and ideas to increase parent & family engagement.
- ✓ Partner with Pierce County elementary schools to share school information about parent & family engagement activities that will help prepare parents, family members and their child for middle school and improve school transition.
- ✓ Partner with Pierce County High School to share school information about parent & family engagement activities that will help prepare parents, family members and their child for high school and improve school transition.
- ✓ Share information in English and Spanish (to the extent feasible) on the school website and in the school newsletter for families to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways 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 phone messages, social media, flyers and REMIND.
- ✓ Work with our parents and family members to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff and families on the importance of parent and family engagement. Listen and respond to parents' and families' requests for additional support for students' academic needs.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials for families at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents and family members work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- ✓ Collaborate with community leaders, philanthropic organizations, business groups to increase participation and awareness of the school parent and family engagement plan and activities.
- ✓ Use our PCMS Cafés to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement plan.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents and family members at school events, place input cards by suggestion box in the main lobby and post stakeholder feedback form on the school website in order to respond to parents' and family members' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.

PCMS Parent Café Meetings



PCMS invites all families to join the PCMS Parent Café meetings to share ideas and ways to involve other parents and family members to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The meetings will occur 2 times during the school year, but families can also submit their 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 the Parent Café, please contact Lanna Denison, Assistant Principal at **912.449.2077** 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 by the main office.

Name: (optional)

Telephone Number: (optional)

Comments:



Sign Me Up!

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

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the PCMS Parent Café team.
- Please contact me so I can learn more about joining the PCMS Parent Café team.
- I would like to be involved in one of the following ways: (circle below)
 - Special Events
 - Mentoring a child
 - Other: _____

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____