

# Middle Ridge Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy

## 2017-2018 Middle Ridge Elementary School Parental Involvement Policy/Plan



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[www.newtoncountyschools.org/midldridge](http://www.newtoncountyschools.org/midldridge)

**Revision date July 15, 2017**

### What is Title I?

Middle Ridge Elementary is identified as a School - Wide Title I school as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. 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 that support parental involvement. All Title I schools must jointly develop, with all parents, a parental involvement policy.

## School Plan for Shared Student Achievement



### What it is?

This is a plan that describes how Middle Ridge Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Middle Ridge Elementary teachers, staff, and administration value the contributions and involvement of parents to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Middle Ridge Elementary will support parents' engagement throughout the school year. It also details how parents' feedback is utilized to plan activities and events to promote student learning at home and school.

### How is it revised?

Middle Ridge invited all parents to attend our annual Title I Revision and Development Stakeholders Input feedback meeting to review and revise our parent and family engagement policy, as well as the school-wide Title I plan, our school-parent compact, the parental involvement budget, the district's parent and family engagement policy, and the CLIP. Additionally, parents can provide input and comments regarding this plan during the school year through parent meetings, and through our Principal talks offered quarterly. The plan is posted on our school's website to view and provide input; parents are encouraged to provide feedback during the school year. Parents are also asked to participate in an annual online survey to provide suggestions on the policy. All feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year.

### Who is it for?

All Middle Ridge Elementary students participate in the School -Wide Title I, Part A Program, and their families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities listed in this plan. Middle Ridge will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

### Where can I get a copy of the plan?

At the beginning of the school year, the plan is sent home with all Middle Ridge Elementary parents and students as part of the Title I Packet. Parents can also access a copy of the plan in the front office, on the school website, or in the Parent Resource Center.

# Middle Ridge Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy

## Newton County School District Goals

The mission of Newton County Schools is to provide educational excellence to all students. To accomplish this mission, two goals have been set

**Goal :** Increased Student Achievement

### Middle Ridge Elementary Goals:

Teachers will design lessons that focus on student-centered instruction. This design will increase:

**Reading:** Increase reading proficiency by 3% during the 2017-2018 school year as measured by authentic literacy common assessments.

- K-2 decoding skills
- 3-5 decoding skills and comprehension

**Math:** Increase math proficiency by 3% during the 2017-2018 school year as measured by authentic math common assessments.

- K-5 number sense

## School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Middle Ridge Elementary and our families will develop a school-parent compact. This is an agreement developed by parents, teachers, and students to have a plan in place to work together throughout the school year. The goal is to ensure all students reach grade-level standards. The compact will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers during the Parent Feedback Meeting at the end of each school year. Compacts will be sent home at the beginning of each year.

## Let's Get Together!

Middle Ridge Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parental involvement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. Meetings for parents will be held in the evening beginning at 6:00 pm. However, additional meetings may be offered based on parents' needs and feedback at varying times.

*Please contact: Ms. Rhonda Battle, Principal, 770-385-6463  
battle.rhonda@newton.k12.ga.us*

### Annual Title I Parent and Family Orientation Meeting August 10, 2017:

Title I Orientation provides parents and stakeholders with information regarding the Title I program the parent and family engagement policy-school and district school-parent compact, Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP), Title I Schoolwide Plan, and Parent Involvement 1% Funding and budget.

**Curriculum Night August 10, 2017:** MRE teachers will demonstrate mini-lessons on basic reading skills such as phonics, sight words, reading fluency and mathematical foundational skills such as counting, estimating, and strategies for operations to parents, families, and stakeholders.

**Building Partnerships through Literacy Night October 19, 2017:** Parents and teachers will meet jointly to discuss strategies to build partnerships. MRE teachers will model effective reading and writing strategies to parents, families, and stakeholders.

**Math Night March 7, 2018:** MRE teachers will model effective mathematical strategies to parents, families, and stakeholders.

**Revision and Development Parent Meeting May 7, 2018:** Parents and community members will provide input about the CLIP, the 1% Budget Allocation of Funds, the Title I SWP, the School and District Parent and Family Engagement Policy, the School Parental Involvement Policy, and the School-Parent Compact.

**Snack and Learn Quarterly Parent Workshops 2017-2018:** MRE staff will model strategies to help support parents and family members with homework in all content areas.

# Middle Ridge Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy



## Parent Resource Center

Stop by our parent resource center to check out a variety of books on parenting skills, have access to a computer to check Infinite Campus or use the internet to research parent resources, or take home a FROG Publication Math game for family fun night. You can also get a copy of the Parent Involvement Policy, Title I Plan, and/or assorted pamphlets on a plethora of subjects

## Parental Involvement

*Middle Ridge Elementary believes true parent involvement is daily parental participation through meaningful communication involving student academic learning and school activities.*

- ⇒ Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.
- ⇒ Parents play an important role in facilitating their child's learning.
- ⇒ Parents show the initiative to be a full partner in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making, and able to be engaged in advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.
- ⇒ The fulfillments of other activities are described in this plan.

## Middle Ridge Mustangs are on the Charge!

*Middle Ridge Elementary will work to ensure that the following measures are coordinated to promote and support all parents as a fundamental source of strength for our school to reach our school goals. We will:*

- ◆ Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, conferences, meetings, and other activities are posted on the school marquee, the school website, Twitter, Facebook, and school messenger. Monthly newsletters, invitations, and reminder letters will be provided to parents in English and Spanish.
- ◆ Offer parent classes/workshops throughout the school year. Classes/workshops will provide parents with valuable information on working with their child to improve academic progress and understand grade level assessments. Materials and informational handouts will be offered during these classes and will be available on the school's website.
- ◆ Offer parent workshops which focus on literacy, mathematics, and computer classes to enhance employability skills.
- ◆ Provide quarterly trainings for staff development on parent and family engagement practices and academic strategies to support learning at home.
- ◆ Have joint trainings with parents in the efforts to build effective family-school partnerships.
- ◆ Coordinate with Bright from the Start (Pre-K Program) to share information about activities that will help prepare parents and students for Kindergarten. Also, there will be scheduled school tours and planned activities for parents and local Head Start Programs.
- ◆ Provide a parent resource center where parents can check out materials and resources to assist with learning at home.
- ◆ Collect feedback from parents at all events, place input cards around the building, and post suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.

**Middle Ridge is committed to helping parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs. 770-385-6463 or [battle.rhonda@newton.k12.ga.us](mailto:battle.rhonda@newton.k12.ga.us)**

# Middle Ridge Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy

## Parental Involvement Standards

Middle Ridge Elementary and our parents have adopted the National PTO 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 the Community



## Mighty Mustang Team

Middle Ridge Elementary invites all parents to join the Mighty Mustang. The Mighty Mustang Team shares ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet four times during the school year, but parents can also submit ideas or suggestions at school activities and meetings, as well as through parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the Mighty Mustang Team, please contact Ms. Rhonda Battle at 770-385-6463 or complete the interest form on the following page and send it back to school with your child.

## Measures of Effectiveness

- **Parent Meeting Evaluation**-to gather feedback from the parents to evaluate the effectiveness of the meeting and to gain insight on parent academic support for future meetings.
  - **Parent Survey Data**-to gain insight on MRE effectiveness in meeting the needs of parents in various areas such as technology, parent workshop topics, and school climate so that we can create an environment that meets the needs of all parents and families.
  - **Revision and Development Stakeholders Meeting:** to give all stakeholders the opportunity to give input to build the effectiveness on the:
    - Parent and Family Engagement Policy-School and District
    - School-Parent Compact
    - Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP)
    - Title I Schoolwide Plan
    - Parent Involvement 1% Funding
  - **Student Outcomes:** to access if strategies and activities, as outlined on the school-parent compacts are effectively impacting student achievement.
- \*Multiple Opportunities for Input:** Middle Ridge Elementary School will provide several opportunities for parents and families to give input on the effectiveness of the Title I Program. Parents can access our Title I Schoolwide Plan, The Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and the School-Parent Compact on our school's website. These documents are also located in our parent resource room.

### Five Star Families: Committed Partnerships

Middle Ridge Elementary School understands the value parents contribute to our school and community. In an effort to encourage more parents to be part of Five Star Families, staff will participate in professional development to learn ways to reach out to families and offer support in areas of need. We know working with parents to build a strong partnership between home and school is vital to student academic achievement!

Parental support results in students who:

- Achieve higher academically
- Maintain better attendance rates
- Develop essential social skills necessary for cooperative learning
- Graduate and go on to further their education

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## A Herd of Mighty Mustangs!



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

Child's Name & Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Yes, I am interested and wish to join Mighty Mustang Team.

Please contact me so I can learn more about Mighty Mustang Team.

Please send me notifications about meetings & updates.



## Share your thoughts!



***We want to hear from you! If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of the school-wide program plan that you feel needs to be adjusted, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the office.***

***Name: (optional)*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Telephone Number (optional)*** \_\_\_\_\_

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