

***Indian Creek Middle School
School Parent and Family
Engagement Policy
2023-2024***

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What is Title I?

Indian Creek Middle School is identified as a Title I school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to the challenging State academic standards 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 family engagement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with parents and family members a written parent and family engagement policy.



School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it?

This policy describes how Indian Creek will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Indian Creek values the contributions and involvement of parents in order to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Indian Creek will support parent engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it developed?

Indian Creek welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding the plan. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. All parents are invited and welcome to provide feedback throughout the year as well as the Title I Stakeholder Input Meeting that was held at the end of the school year. In this meeting, parents and teachers discussed, reviewed and gave input to revise this School Parent Family and Engagement Policy, the Title I School-wide Plan, School-Parent Compact, Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP), 1% Budget Allocation of Funds, and District Parental Involvement Policy. The policy is posted on our school website for parents to view and post feedback throughout the year. We also distribute an annual online survey to ask parent for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent involvement. Parents can also give feedback during our Parent Involvement meetings throughout the year. Indian Creek holds quarterly Parent and Family meetings where parents can give feedback on this policy. All feedback received throughout the year will be used to revise the policy for next school year.

Who is it for?

Indian Creek has a Title I school wide program. All students and their families at Indian Creek are encouraged to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. ICMS will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available?

At the beginning of the year, the plan will be given to all students in their Title I information packets. The plan will be available at all Parent Involvement meetings and parent and teacher conferences throughout the school year. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan from the school website. A translated version will be available at Title I meetings and upon request.

Parent Resource Room

The Parent Resource Center is located in the Media Center Conference room. Books, manipulatives, and activities will be available to check out to use at home with your student. The Parent Resource Center will host “Open House” sessions during Parent-Teacher conferences where parents can discover what is available for checkout and learn how to use the hands-on materials. Computers are available for parents to explore the Parent Portal and educational resources.

Monday-Friday 8:45 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Continuous Communication

All informed, engaged, and supportive family plays an instrumental role in a student’s academic success. The Newton County School System supports families in partnerships with schools, district, and the community in the quest of achieving academic success for all students. Here are some ways that we provide continuous communication with our parents to ensure that learning is continued beyond the school day.

Parent Connect Canvas Page

Teacher Canvas Page

Twitter

Facebook

School’s Website—Panther Press Newsletter

School Messenger

Flyers

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 ICMS 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.
- **Stakeholders’ Input 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
 - Building Staff Capacity
 - 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:** ICMS will provide several opportunities for parents and families to give input on the effectiveness of the Title I Program. Parents can access our Title 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 located in the Media Center Conference room.

Newton County Schools Goals

(1) Increase the graduation rate; (2) Increase opportunities for students to demonstrate success; and (3) Improve student mastery of standards.

ICMS Math School Goal

Increase student performance on the Math Fastbridge in grades 6-8, by 3%, by the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

6th–8th Grade Areas of Emphasis

Improve math performance by focusing on building background knowledge, math computational skills, and vocabulary.

ICMS Reading School Goal

Increase student performance on the ELA Fastbridge in grades 6-8, by 3%, by the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

6th-8th Grade Areas of Emphasis

Improve literacy performance by focusing on reading comprehension.

School-Parent Compact

As part of this plan, Indian Creek and our families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop together that explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers during Parent Involvement meetings and parent teacher conferences.

Parent Engagement Program and Activities

Indian Creek will host multiple events to build the capacity for strong parental involvement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community. Parents will be informed of these events via flyers, emails, texts, school messengers, the school website, and the school marquee. We will also have the Panther Press Newsletter on the website. We will offer these meetings at flexible times of the day, week, and year. Indian Creek will provide opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children to attend.

Title I Annual Parent Orientation Meeting August 24, 2023

Parents will develop an understanding of the Title I program, Title I Funding, and Title I Parent Involvement Activities. The *Elementary and Secondary Education Assistance Act*, the Title I Parent Involvement Policy, and School-Parent Compact will be addressed.

Parent-Teacher Conferences September 15, 2023

Families and teachers will have the opportunity to discuss students' progress and to address parent concerns.

Family Literacy Night October 5, 2023

Families will participate in interactive activities to learn comprehension strategies that support reading development and problem solving in Math, ELA, Science, and Social Studies. Teachers will model strategies that parents can use at home to support academic success. A variety of resources will be shared with families.

Parent-Teacher Conferences February 2, 2024

Families and Teachers will have the opportunity to discuss students' progress.

Georgia Milestones and Resource Night March 14, 2024

Families will receive information about the Georgia Milestones and resources. Teachers will demonstrate how to access and use GaDOE study resources including the Milestones Study Guide and the online practice test.

Annual Title I Stakeholder Input Meeting March 28, 2024

Parents will review and provide feedback to revise the School & District Parent Family and Engagement Policies, the Title I School-wide Plan, School-Parent Compact, Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP), ways to build staff capacity, and 1% Budget Allocation of Funds for 2024-2025.

Parent Engagement Funds

Did you know that each LEA that receives more than \$500,000 in Title I, Part A funds, shall reserve at least one percent of its allocation to assist schools to carry out the parental engagement activities? Attend our Annual Title I Stakeholder's Input Meeting to give your input on how we can use our funds to provide you with the tools, resources and strategies to help your child reach academic success

**Annual Title I Stakeholder Input Meeting
March 28, 2024**

Parent and Family Engagement

At Indian Creek, parental involvement includes meaningful communication between parents, teachers, and students. Communication addresses student performance, academic achievement, upcoming school activities, and ensures

- *That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning. The parent resource page is on the website.*
- *That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their student's academics. Please look at Infinite Campus often.*
- *That parents are full partners in their student's education and are included in decision-making and advisory committees to assist in their student's education.*

Building Capacity

In order to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement, Indian Creek Middle School will...

- Share information in English and Spanish to ensure parents understand the state's academic standards, assessments, Title I requirements, as well as how to monitor their child's progress and work with educators by inviting them to parent meetings linked to learning, parent conferences, sending home progress reports, and giving parents access to Infinite Campus.
- Provide learning opportunities for parents through Parent and Family Engagement Workshops (including the harms of copyright piracy) that are linked to learning and tailored to meet the specific grade-level needs in the efforts to prepare their students for academic success. We also have the Panther Newsletter available on the website.
- Have available materials and resources for parents at conference and parent and family engagement meetings to help parents work with their students to improve their academic achievement.
- The school will provide parents information on parent and family engagement from their website. Newsletters are parent resources are provided including educational websites in both English and Spanish.
- Build staff capacity to work with parents as equal partners by sharing best practices and effective strategies for staff to communicate and build partnerships with parents.
- Partner with other federal, state and local programs including elementary and high schools to share school information about parent engagement activities that will help prepare parents and their student for middle and high school transitions.
- Invite parents to the Parent Resource Center located in the Front Office. Families will be able to check out educational materials to use at home with their students.
- Provide information (including flyers, brochures, and parent notices) related to school and parent programs in English and Spanish.
- Listen and respond to parents' requests for additional support for Parent and Family Engagement activities.
- Provide parents opportunities to provide feedback through surveys and Title I Parent Involvement Policy and Compact revision meetings.

Stakeholders' Input Form

We want to hear from you! If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of the schoolwide 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 front office.

Name: (optional) _____

Telephone Number (optional)

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