

BERRIEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
802 Middle School Circle
Nashville, GA 31639

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BES WEBSITE: <https://bes.berrienschools.org/>

Berrien Elementary School Parent and Family Engagement Plan
2019-2020
Revision Date: 10/15/2019

A school is selected as a Title I school based on the number of students who are eligible for free or reduced priced meals. Title I, Part A, Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that each school served under Title I, Part A, develop jointly with, agree with and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement plan.

Description of School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

In order to achieve its goal of improving student achievement in all academic areas, Berrien Elementary recognizes the vital role of parent involvement. This plan describes the different ways that we 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.

Jointly Developed

We invite all parents annually to participate in the writing, revising, and updating of the parent and family engagement plan. We welcome parent input and comments at any time regarding this plan. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for next year. The plan is posted on our website for parents to view and post feedback throughout the year. We also distribute an annual survey online to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent involvement. This plan will be given to each student to take home in October of each year and parents will receive a sign-off sheet stating they have received a copy of the plan.

Goals

District

1. By the end of 2019-2020 school year, we will Improve literacy for all students measured by the midpoint of the CCRPI stretch Lexil bands for each grade level.
2. By the end of 2019-2020 school year, we will reduce the number of multiple In-school and Out-of-school suspensions per student.

BES School Goals

By the end of the 2020 school year,, BES will strive to increase student growth in all subject areas and will strive to meet or exceed the state’s benchmarks on the EOG state assessments. BES will provide a safe and drug free school, increase communication strategies with all stakeholders and increase student achievement through character recognition, technology, and career clusters.

Parent and Family Engagement Programs and Activities

BES 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

- Open House – August 5, 2019
 - Meet your child’s teacher
- PAC Meetings (Quarterly)
 - Addresses Migrant Needs
- Annual Title I Parent Meeting – September 18, 2019
 - Learn about our Title I program
- Parent-Teacher Night – January 2020
 - Learn about your child’s academic expectations and standards
- Curriculum Spotlights per grade
 - Each grade group will invite parents to help or view projects in their classes
- PTO – Various Times of Year (Planning Stage)
 - School Needs, Fundraisers, Student Achievement
- Parent Involvement Day – November 2019
 - Tour of the School/Parent Concerns
 - Thanksgiving Lunch (3rd grade)
- Class Parties – December and February
- Georgia Milestones Overview– January 2020
 - Assessment Expectations/CCRPI
- Career Day – March 2020
- Parent Appreciation – May 20, 2020
 - Celebrate Parents
- Music Programs-Nov 2019, Dec 2019, May 2020
- Art Gallery- May 2020
- Steam Night Feb 2020

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, BES 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 the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Meeting.

Parental Support for Activities/Programs

Berrien Elementary is committed to helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please call us if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs/activities. (229-686-2939)

School Measures to Provide Required Assistance

BES will take the following measures to promote and support parents as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals:

- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in English and Spanish, posted on our website and included in our weekly newsletters
- Share academic standards and assessment results on a regular basis
- Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities
- Work with parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parental involvement
- Provide necessary materials for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievements
- Collaborate with community leaders and business groups to increase participation and awareness of the school parental involvement plan and activities
- Use parent surveys to help to identify needs and interest in learning opportunities

Home School Communication

BES recognizes the importance of developing positive relationships between home and school. One important method we use is through our Monday communication folders and newsletters. Other means of communication include: webpage, email, agenda books, marquee, conferences, parent portal, personal contacts, remind, and phone calls.

Reservation Of Funds

BES is committed to helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Through meetings and parent surveys, parents of children served by Title I, Part A funds can share in determining the best use of 1% of funds allowed for parent and family engagement. Parents are asked to convey ideas for how these funds should be used to ensure they become more involved in school activities.

Annual Title 1 Parent Meeting

BES will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage all parents of current students to attend to educate them about the school's Title I Program and requirements, the expectation of parents. Copies of the current school Parent and Family Engagement Policy, the Schoolwide Plan, and the School-Parent Compact are made available at this time too. This year's Annual Title I Parent Meeting will be held in September 2019.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

BES will take the following measures to promote and support parents as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals:

- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in English and Spanish, & posted on our website.
- Communicate with parents on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities.
- Provide necessary materials for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievements. Necessary materials supplied may include: descriptions of the curriculum standards, information regarding the types of assessments used locally and at the state level, strategies for parents to help their children at home, and help parents understand how to monitor their child's progress.
- Collaborate with community leaders and business groups to increase participation and awareness of the school parental involvement plan and activities.
- Use parent surveys to help to identify needs and interest in learning opportunities.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

BES will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school by utilizing resources such as: online resources, webinars, training provided by the District Title I Coordinator, and ideas from the school leadership team. Reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities will be provided as requested by parents or identified by faculty and staff members.

Student Progress and Communication

Progress report and report cards go home at four and nine week intervals. Reports of the annual state testing are sent to parents informing them of their child's results on the state assessment. We provide a parent portal website as an additional method to review student's progress.

Parental Surveys

Berrien Elementary encourages and values the home, community, and school connection. An effort is made throughout the year to provide opportunities of learning through varied experiences. Parent surveys help to identify needs and interest of learning opportunities, convenient meeting times, and dates throughout the year. Some parent concerns from 2018-2019 surveys that will be addressed in the 2019-2020 school year are math help for parents, bullying, and additional technology needs.

Parent Institute Letters/Student-Parent Handbook

The Home and School Connection parent newsletters from the parent institute is provided monthly in English and Spanish and posted on our website. The Student Parent Handbook addresses issues such as dress code, school policies and procedures, transportation, and school nutrition.

Parent Resource Center

A Parent Information Resource Center is located in the media center. Valuable information on study skills, test-taking tips, tips for busy parents, bullying strategies, reading strategies, math strategies, etc. are available to the parents. Computers are also available for parents to use to check grades, attendance, benchmark sites, etc. Additional topics are added to the center as needed or as mentioned in the spring surveys.

Community Partners

BES partners with Georgia Power for Student Citizenship recognition and we partner with the Foster Grandparent Program. We have three foster grandparents who assist in the reading room and help with reading interventions and progress monitoring data. In addition, we work closely with local doctors through the use of our TeleCare Clinic. Other organizations in the community that we share a partnership with are the local chapter of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Family Connections Community in Schools of Berrien County, Alapaha Soil and Water, Seven Rivers R C and D, Berrien High FFA, Local 4H program, Ga. Power, Farm Bureau and the Berrien County Recreation Department.

Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions, Please feel free to contact the school and speak with an Administrator, or teacher.