

***Parent and Family Engagement Plan for Shared Student Success  
2023-2024***

*“Together We Can Make A Difference”*

***William M. Finch Elementary School***

***Dr. T. Cotton, Principal***

***1114 Avon Ave SW,***

***Atlanta, GA 30310***

***404-802-4000***

***<http://www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/Domain/571>***

***Revised Date: September 12, 2023***

**What is Title I?**

Finch ES is identified as a Title I school as part of Every Student Succeed Act of 2017 (ESSA). Title I is a federal program that provides funding to local school districts to help ensure that all children in district Title I schools meet the state’s high academic standards. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and including strategies to support parent and family engagement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with all parents and families a written parent and family engagement plan.

At Finch Elementary, our Title I program provides the following:

Teachers who work with students who can benefit from additional support

Learning resources for students

Professional learning resources for teachers

Resources and activities for parents to access as they support their child academically.

**School Plan for Shared Student Achievement**

**What is it?**

This is a plan that describes how Finch Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parental engagement support learning. Finch Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describe the different ways Finch Elementary will support parent engagement and how parents can help and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at home.

**How is it revised?**

William M. Finch Elementary School invited all parents and stakeholders to participants jointly developed, reviewed and provided input in the revision of Finch’s Parent and family Engagement Plan, the School-Parent Compact, Calendar of Events, the School-wide Title I Budget/funding priorities, and Title I School-wide Plan. In order to improve our parent involvement program – all stakeholders had the opportunity to comment, make suggestions and provide feedback. All comments and feedback were reviewed and used to develop our documents and Title I School wide Program. Additionally, parents have the opportunity to provide input regarding their child’s education during our Title I Planning Meeting, Parent/ Teacher conferences, GO TEAM meeting and other school meetings and throughout the year.

**Who is it for?**

As a Title I school, Finch Elementary encourages all students and their families to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Finch Elementary will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English and parents with disabilities.

**Where is it available?**

Finch Elementary School’s Parents and Family Engagement Plan is distributed in the fall to all parents/guardians of students in our school and in our Parent Resource Center. We strive to make continual progress in working with our parents and welcome any feedback and suggestions at all times throughout the school year.

### **2023-2024 Finch Elementary**

Increase the % of grades 3-5 students scoring proficient or above in reading 17% to 22%  
Increase the % of grades 3-5 students scoring proficient or above in math 19% to 24%  
Increase the CCRPI Student Attendance Rate from 57.4 to 75%

### **School-Parent Compacts**

The School-Parent Compact (SPC) is a written agreement between the school community and parents. The SPC provides an opportunity to create new partnerships between the school, teachers and families. It explains what families and schools can do to help children reach high academic standards of excellence. This written agreement indicates how all stakeholders of our school community agree to share in the effort to raise student academic achievement.

### **Let's Get Together!**

Finch Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parental engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. Family Engagement funds may be used to support activities listed below.

#### ***DATES***

*Ice Cream Social -Infinite Campus Parent Portal August 24, 2023*

**Grandparents Day "Lets Get Lit" September 12, 2023**

**Annual Title I Meeting/STEAM Family Night October 24, 2023**

**Pastries for Parents- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade APPT Family Day November 8, 2023**

**Pastries for Parents- 1st Grade APPT Family Day November 9, 2023**

**Pastries for Parents- Kindergarten APPT Family Day November 10, 2023**

**APTT Parent Conferences – K-2 December 5, 2023**

**APTT Family Night – January 23, 2024**

**Math and Literacy Parent Academic Night March 19, 2024**

**Ga Milestone Night/ APTT Family Night April 23, 2024**

**Title I Input Meeting TBD**

## Parental Engagement

Finch Elementary believes that parent involvement means the participation of parents in regular two-way, communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring;

That parents play a role in assisting their child's learning;

Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school and home.

That parents are full partners in their child's education and are included in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

The carrying out of other activities as described in this parental engagement plan.

Finch Elementary is committed to helping our 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.

For more information Contact Ms. Wise at:  
404-802-4012.

## Finch Elementary is Branching Out!

Finch Elementary 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.

We will:

Create a welcoming environment by making parents and families a priority as they are encouraged to get involved, recognized for contributions, viewed as partners in school leadership, and by building positive parent relationships.

Educate our staff on the value and best practices of parental engagement during staff meetings and via information shared through email.

Provide parents with frequent reports via weekly announcements/daily folder/agendas.

Hold an Annual Title I meeting in the Fall to inform parents of school's participation in the Title I, Part A programs, and to explain their rights under Title I Part A program.

The school will host and invite all parents to meetings and will encourage full participation. Meetings and events will be held at various times throughout the year.

Provide workshops for families to understand state assessments and prepare their student for the Georgia Milestones, as well as provide workshops and trainings to provide parents with the knowledge to understand what their student is learning in the classroom.

Partner with district departments/ resources (eg. ESOL) to provide information to parents in an understandable and uniform format, including an alternative formats upon request of parents with disabilities and, in languages that parents can understand.

Partner with the Pre-K department and local preschools to provide transition opportunities for incoming families. Connect with the local feeder school to provide transition activities for our students and families moving on to middle school.

Provide resources in the parent center for parents to check out, as well as computers that allow parents to locate activities and supports to create a learning environment at home.

## Parent Involvement Standards

Finch Elementary and our parents have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community. The standards are:

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

## School Community Team

Finch Elementary invites ALL parents to join the Title I Parent Engagement Committee to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet during the school year, but parents can also submit their ideas or suggestions during all activities and meetings as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the Title I Parent Engagement Committee; please contact the Parent Liaison, Aketa Wise at: [awise@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:awise@atlanta.k12.ga.us) or complete the interest form and leave it in the Main Office.

## Parent Resource Room

**Parent Center Hours: 8:00a.m.-3:00p.m.**

*The following resources are available for parents to either use or borrow:*

**Parent Resources:** Books, videos, and magazines are available for check-out.

**Computers/Printer:** Available for access for job search and resume building.

**Educational Development:** Classes and workshops are created as needed, to assist Title I Parents.

*Aketa Wise, Parent Liaison can be reached by phone 404-802-4012 or by email [awise@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:awise@atlanta.k12.ga.us)*

## Parental Involvement is Important!

Regardless of family income or background, students with involved parents/guardians/families are more likely to:

Earn higher grades and test scores, and enroll in higher-levels programs  
Be promoted and pass their classes  
Attend school regularly  
Have better social skills, show improved behavior, and adapt well to school  
Graduate and go on to further education

## When do Children Learn?

Eighteen years is 157,680 hours- that's a lot of hours! From the time a child is born until he or she graduates from high school, what percentage of the child's waking, learning hours are spent at and at school.

*Let's do the math!!!*

Assume kids sleep about 8 hours each day; 24 hours per day - 8 hours sleeping = 16 waking hours per day

- 365 days per year x 18 years = 6,570 days
- 6,570 days x 16 waking hours per day = 105,120 waking hours by age 18
- Assume kids are in school an average of 6.5 hours each day
- 180 school days per year x 6.5 hours per school day = 1,170 hours of school each year
- 1,170 hours of school each year x 13 years (1 year in kindergarten + 12 years through high school) = 15,210 school hours
- 15,210 school hours ÷ 105,120 waking hours = .1446 or only 14.46% of waking hours by age 18 spent in school.

That means 85.54% of children's time is spent elsewhere—mainly at home. No wonder parent involvement has such a huge impact on children's school success.

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