

Garden Hills Elementary School Parental Involvement Policy 2014-2015

Revised October 29, 2014



In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy, agreed on by such parents, that contains information required by section 1118 (b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) (school parental involvement policy). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parental involvement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parental involvement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to Atlanta Public Schools District.

**Garden Hills Elementary School
Parental Involvement Policy
2014-2015**



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What is Title I?

Garden Hills Elementary is identified as a Title I school as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA).

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 parental involvement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with all parents a written parental involvement policy.

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it? This is a plan that describes how Garden Hills will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Garden Hills 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 Garden Hills 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. This plan was jointly developed by parents, community partners and school personnel.

How is it developed? Garden Hills Elementary School welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding the plan. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for next year. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and post feedback throughout the year. We also distribute an annual survey online and by mail to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent involvement. Parents can also give feedback during our annual Title I Meeting, Parental Involvement Review Meeting, School-Parent- Compact Review Meeting, Title I Parent workshops/activities, End-of-the-Year Title I/ Budget Meeting.

Who is it for? All students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families, are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Garden Hills Elementary 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 is included in the student, registration packet that is given to all students. As a reminder, we will mail the plan to all parents in August before the scheduled Open House event. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Center and Main Office.

Distribution of Title I Documents Title I documents (School –Parent Compact, Parental Involvement Policy/Plan, the district Parental Involvement Policy and Title I Surveys) are distributed in multiple ways (at every parent workshop/activity). If you would like a copy for review please stop by the main office or academic center to retrieve.

2014-2015 District Goals

Literacy: By the end of the 2014-2015 school year, increase by 5% the number of students in kindergarten through second grade who read on or above grade level, as measured by the Computer Adaptive Assessment.

Math: By the end of the 2014-2015 school year, increase by 5% the number of students who score at the meets or exceed level on the mathematics portion of the CRCT and EOCT.

2014-2015 School Goals

Increase language proficiency of ESOL students by 7% on the 2015 ACCESS test.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Garden Hills Elementary 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 School-Compact Review Meeting. The compacts are distributed throughout the school year and at various meetings/workshops for review, also copies are kept in the main office and Parent Academic

Let's Get Together!

Parent Involvement Activities, Meetings and Workshops

Garden Hills 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.

New Parent Breakfast- August 1, 2014

- ✓ Learn helpful information to prepare for the school year.

GHEs Family Picnic-August 21, 2014

- ✓ Come out and have fun getting to know your school community.

Open House – September 10, 2014

- ✓ Meet your child's teacher and our friendly and helpful school staff for the year

Annual Title I Meeting – September 24, 2014

- ✓ We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program including our parent involvement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts and the parents' requirements. Invitations will be mailed, flyers will be distributed and posted in the school newsletter

Compact Review Meeting- October 16, 2014

- ✓ We invite all stakeholders to be a part to review and revise our School-Parent Compact

Parental Involvement Policy Review Meeting- October 28, 2014

- ✓ We invite all stakeholders to be a part to review and revise our School Involvement Policy

Grade Level Parent Curriculum Workshops – October 10th, 16th, 22nd, 24th and 29th, 2014 *(Spaghetti*

Dinner will be sponsored by PTA on February 10, 2015)

- ✓ Parents will enjoy hearing the latest writing samples and curriculum updates

Parent-Teacher and Student Conferences – October 1, 2014 & February 15, 2015

- ✓ Scheduled updates on your child's progress

Coffee Talk w/Principal (TBD)

Technology Talk – Thursday, March 12, 2015

- ✓ Catch up with the latest resources to help support your child's learning

Academic Parent Workshops (Title I Parents & Non-Title I Parents) (Monthly)

- ✓ Gain knowledge about topics relevant to your child's education

International Academic Day –February 8, 2015

- ✓ Connect with the school and community to build a better school and review school plans

Parent Appreciation – April 2015

- ✓ A celebration of parent engagement and the recognition of parental involvement impact on school and student success

End-of-the-Year Title I/Budget/Survey Meeting – April 14, 2015

Parental Involvement

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

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- That parents are full 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;
- The carrying out of other activities as described in this plan.

Support

Garden Hills Elementary is committed to helping our parents attend the parental workshops, meetings and activities listed in this plan. Please call or email our Parent Liaison, **Claudia Lopez**, if you need additional information about our programs.

Phone: 404-802-7810

E-mail: clopez@atlanta.k12.ga.us

Garden Hills is Branching Out!

Garden Hills 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 –

- ✓ Invite parents, community partners, school personnel and business partners in multiple ways (flyer, marquee announcements, robo calls etc.) the opportunity to make suggestions, review and revise in the development of the parental involvement plan a school-parent compact annually.
- ✓ Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in English and in Spanish, and posted on the school website and included in the calling posts, email notifications, flyers, social media (twitter/Facebook) and marquee for all parents.
- ✓ Conduct an annual Title I meeting, at a convenient time and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend, to inform them about the schools' Title I program, the nature of the program, the parents' requirements and the school parental involvement policy, the schoolwide plan and the school-parent compact; parents are welcomed to make suggestions/comments
- ✓ Conduct staff development on parent involvement practices and effective strategies for staff to communicate and build partnerships with parents.
- ✓ Partner and collaborate with community based organizations and businesses, including faith based organizations including parental involvement programs to share school information about parent engagement activities that will help prepare parents and their child for college, technical and/or military transition.
- ✓ Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visit, as such services relate to parental involvement.
- ✓ Share information in English/Spanish on the school blog and in the school newsletter for parents to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, such as phone messages, social media, and flyers.
- ✓ Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff/parents on the importance of parental involvement.
- ✓ Provide necessary resources for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to assist their child's academic improvement (*content standards, academic achievement, academic assessments, alternate assessments, GA Milestone, tutorial services and progress reports*).
- ✓ Involve stakeholders in the development/review of Title I documents that support academic success for students.
- ✓ Offer parent classes to help further enhance their various education backgrounds.
- ✓ Listen and respond to parents' requests for additional support for parental involvement activities by conducting quarterly surveys and responding to feedback.

Parent Involvement Standards

Garden Hills 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. 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 Community



If you are interested in becoming a member of a Title I Review Committee and/or participate in Title I Academic Workshops, please sign up by email with our Parent Liaison, **Claudia Lopez** clopez@atlanta.k12.ga.us

- School-wide Planning Committee
- Parental Involvement Policy Review Committee
- Compact Review Committee
- Academic Workshops
- Volunteer

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 and leave this form in the Parent Center.

Name: (optional) _____

Telephone Number: (optional) _____

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