



# Garden Hills Elementary School School Parental Involvement Policy 2015-2016

*Revised September 16, 2015*



*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 2015-2016



*Tommy Usher, Principal*

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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 Elementary** will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. **Garden Hills Elementary** 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 Elementary** 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?** **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 and newsletters 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, Compact Review Meeting, Title I Parent workshops/activities, End-of-the-Year Meeting and 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 Title I School Budget/ Budget Meeting notices, 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.

## 2015-2016 District Goals

Our students will be well rounded individuals who possess the necessary academic skills and knowledge and are excited about learning



## 2015-2016 School Goals

**Reading:** Language acquisition & vocabulary development in all grades K-5

**Math:** Increase math proficiency in all grades K-5 with a focus on process and proficiency

## 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. Copies of the school-parent compacts are kept in the main office and with each child's teacher if parents need a copy.

## 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.

#### **Open House – August 3, 2015**

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

#### **Compact Review Meeting- September 16, 2015**

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

#### **Parental Involvement Policy Review Meeting- September 16, 2015**

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

#### **GHEs Family Picnic-October 6, 2015**

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

#### **Annual Title I Meeting – October 7, 2015**

- ✓ 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

#### **Grade Level Parent Curriculum Workshops – October 6<sup>th</sup> – November 15<sup>th</sup>**

- ✓ Parents will enjoy hearing the latest writing, math and reading strategies and curriculum updates

#### **Parent-Teacher and Student Conferences – September 28<sup>th</sup> -October 7, 2015**

- ✓ Scheduled a conference teacher to hear updates on your child's progress

#### **Coffee Talk w/Principal (TBD)**

#### **Technology Talk – January 2016**

- ✓ 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 2016 (TBD)**

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

#### **Parent Appreciation – April 2016 (TBD)**

- ✓ 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 – May 2016 (TBD)**

- ✓ Parents will provide input about Title I funds and how it will increase academic achievement

## 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](mailto:clopez@atlanta.k12.ga.us)**

## Garden Hills is Branching Out!

- ✓ 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-home compact annually.
- ✓ Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in English/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 and welcome parents to make suggestions and provide feedback.
- ✓ 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 twitter page, school website 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, CCGPS, GA Milestone Testing, 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 López** [clopez@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto: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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