

TOOMER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Parent & family engagement policy &
plan for shared student success

2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR



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WHAT IS TITLE I?

Toomer Elementary 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 is a plan that describes how Toomer Elementary will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Toomer Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents and family members to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Toomer Elementary will support family 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 REVISED?

Toomer Elementary School invited all parents to attend our annual Title I input meeting last spring to review and revise this parent and family engagement policy, as well as the schoolwide plan, our school-parent compact, and the family engagement budget. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We also distribute an annual survey to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family engagement. Parents and family members can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities during the school year.

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. Toomer Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, and of migratory children.

WHERE IS IT AVAILABLE?

The plan will also be posted on the school website and will be sent home in the students' communication folder.

2023-2024 DISTRICT GOALS

- Literacy Proficiency: The percentage of students in grades 3-8 scoring proficient or above in reading, as measured by GMAS, will increase from 36.9% in 2019 to 47% in 2026.
- Numarcy Proficiency: The percentage of students in grades 3-8 scoring proficient or above in math, as measured by GMAS, will increase from 35% in 2019 to 45.4% in 2026.

2023-2024 SCHOOL GOALS

- Increase the ELA proficiency rates for our subgroups
- Increase the Math proficiency rates for our subgroups
- Decrease the number of chronically absent students

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACTS

As part of this plan, Toomer Elementary and our families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop 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 Family Engagement Meetings. The school-parent compacts also are shared with parents during the school year. Please return the signature sheet to Ms. Clark, our Title I Parent Contact.

LET'S GET TOGETHER!

Toomer Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

Open House: We invite you to come meet your child's teacher and our friendly and helpful staff.

Family Engagement Night - Curriculum Focus : General Information with Principal Brown, then meet your child's teacher and learn about the curriculum for the school year.

Family Engagement Night - Literacy Focus: We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parental involvement policy, the school-wide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' right to know. Flyers will be sent home and posted on the website. You will also receive an update on our literacy program and skills that you can utilize at home to promote literacy with your child.

Family Engagement Night - Science Focus: See a showcase of Science directly correlated to your child's standards

Family Engagement Night - Math Focus: Hear about the math standards and strategies your child is learning in school. Teachers will provide resources for you to support the math instruction at home.

Family Engagement Night: GMAS Focus: Hear from the lead instructional team about GMAS dates, ways to prepare, and resources

Family Engagement Night - Arts Focus: General Information with Principal Brown, then meet your child's teacher and learn about curriculum updates.

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Toomer Elementary believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members 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.

Toomer Elementary is committed to helping our parents and families attend the family activities listed in this policy. Please call or email us if you need assistance with child care or transportation in order to participate in our programs.

Kaitie Clark
Kaitlin.clark@apsk12.org
(404) 802-3450

TOOMER ELEMENTARY IS BRANCHING OUT!

Toomer Elementary will take the following measures to promote and support parents and family members as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will:

- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is posted on the school website, and included in the monthly school newsletter for all families.
- Provide trainings for staff during their planning periods on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement with reading and math activities for our students outside of the classroom. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- Partner with early childhood programs, middle and high schools, college and career ready resources or organizations, parent resource centers, or other programs (as applicable) to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.
- Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, through phone messages, social media, and flyers.
- Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.
- Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- Use our Partners in Education and School-Community Team to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement policy.
- Collect feedback from parents and family members at all events in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

STANDARDS

Toomer 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

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Toomer Elementary invites all families to join the Family Engagement Committee to share ideas and ways to involve other parents and family members to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet during the school year, but parents and family members can also submit their ideas or suggestions at school activities and meetings, as well as through our parent surveys. If you would like to learn more about the committee, please contact Kaitie Clark at (404) 802-3450 or complete the interest form & leave it in main office.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY TEAM

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the School Community Team.
- Please contact me so I can learn more about joining the School Community Team.
- Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this policy 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 Main Office:

Name & Telephone number (optional)

Comment:

