

Chattanooga Valley Middle School

Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success 2018-2019 School Year

Chattanooga Valley Middle School
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What is Title I?

Chattanooga Valley Middle School (CVMS) is identified as a Title I school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Any school with 40% or more of its students receiving free or reduced lunch qualifies as a Title I school. 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 CVMS will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. CVMS 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 CVMS 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?

CVMS invited all parents to attend our planning meeting last spring to review and revise this parent and family engagement policy, as well as the school wide plan, our school-parent compact, and the family engagement budget. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school 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 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. CVMS will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, and of migratory children. Residential facilities in our district are included in our parent and family engagement activities and correspondence.

Where is it available?

The plan is distributed to students, emailed or mailed to parents (families choose their preferred method of communication on the Stay Informed sheet distributed the first day of school), and posted on the CVMS web site and social media. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent and Family Resource Center.

2018-19 District Goals

By May 2020, increase by 9% the number of students performing at or above proficiency in English Language Arts in grades 3-8 as measured by the Georgia Milestones End of Grade Assessment.

2018-19 School Goals

Based on student performance data, CVMS has determined our goal for 2018-19 is to increase the percentage of students whose Lexile reading score is at or above grade level.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, CVMS 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 Spring Family Engagement Planning meeting and via the survey. The school parent compacts are kept in the Family Center if families need a copy.

Let's Get Together!

Chattanooga Valley Middle School 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. All meetings for parents and family members will be held at 6:00 pm.

Open House - July 31, 2018

Meet your child's teachers and our friendly and helpful school staff for the year.

Annual Title 1 Meeting - October 2, 2018

We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the school wide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements. Invitations will be sent home with students, emailed (or mailed depending on your choice), posted in the newsletter, and on social media.

Family Book Club Meetings - Fall, Winter and Spring

To help families improve their children's reading comprehension, we are offering three book club meetings to discuss *I Survived Hurricane Katrina*. Books will be provided to one adult and one student per family.

Spring Planning Meeting - May 2, 2019

A forum for parents and family members to participate in a discussion about the school wide plan, parent and family engagement policy, school-parent compacts, and the family engagement budget.

Parent and Family Resource Center

Come visit the Parent and Family Resource Center (in the front office) to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child. Computers are available for parents to explore PowerSchool and educational resources. Monday-Friday, 10:00 am-2:00 pm.

Parent and Family Engagement

CVMS 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.

CVMS 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 (Leslie Shepherd, (706) 820-0735 or leslieshepherd@walkerschools.org).

CVMS is Branching Out!

CVMS will take the following measures to promote and support families 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 parents.
- Provide trainings for staff during their planning periods on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement.
- Partner with elementary and high schools, college and career ready resources or organizations, parent resource centers, or other programs to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.
- Share information on the school web site and in the newsletter for parents to understand the school's academic standards and assessments and 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 school-wide 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 parental involvement policy.
- Offer literacy and computer classes for parents to help further enhance their various educational levels.

Parent and Family Engagement Standards

CVMS 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:

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

School Council

CVMS invites all parents to join the School Council 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 four times during the school year, but parents and family members can also submit their ideas or suggestions at any school activity and meeting, as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the School Council, please contact the principal at 706-820-0735 or complete the interest form and leave it in the office.

School Council

____ Yes, I am interested and wish to join the School Council.

____ Please contact me so I can learn more in joining the School Council.

____ Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

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 the academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the Main Office:

Name: (optional) _____

Phone Number: (optional) _____
