

**FOLKSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
PARENT ENGAGEMENT POLICY FOR  
SHARED STUDENT SUCCESS  
2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR**



**FOLKSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
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PLAN REVISED AUGUST 25, 2017**

**What is Title I?**

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

Folkston Elementary is committed to helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Childcare is provided at most activities. Please call or email us if you need more assistance in order to participate in our programs.

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**School Policy for Shared Student Achievement**

**What is it?** This is a plan that describes how Folkston Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Folkston 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 Folkston 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?** Folkston 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. Ongoing efforts will be made to solicit input from parents and community members throughout the year. We also distribute an annual survey at the end of the year to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent involvement. Parents can also give feedback during any of our Family Fun Nights through evaluations.

**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. Folkston 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?** All students receive a copy of this policy with their first report card. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Center. It is also available at the Charlton County Board of Education.

**Parent Engagement Standards**

Folkston Elementary engages parents, students, and the community. These standards are –

1. Parenting
2. Communicating Effectively
3. Supporting Student Learning
4. Volunteering
5. School Decision Making
6. Collaborating with Community

### **2017-2018 District/School Focus**

1. All teaching and learning activities begin, progress, and end with an in-depth and intense focus on standards.
2. Communication with stakeholders is frequent, consistent, meaningful, documented, and includes student progress and celebration of success.
3. Teacher and leader effectiveness and growth are promoted and supported in order to improve student learning.
4. Interventions that meet the needs of individual students are developed, implemented, monitored, and documented.
5. Formative and summative student achievement data are consistently collected and analyzed to guide instructional planning.

### **School-Parent Compacts**

As part of this plan, Folkston 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. The school-parent compacts are kept with each child's teacher if parents need a copy. These compacts will also be reviewed when a parent/teacher conference is conducted.

### **Folkston Elementary is Branching Out!**

Folkston 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 –

- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published to include all students, not excluding those who are limited English proficient, disabled, migratory, homeless, economically disadvantaged or those in need of additional academic assistance and posted on the school website and included in the monthly school newsletter for all parents.
- Conduct staff development each quarter on parent involvement practices and effective strategies for staff to communicate and build partnerships with parents.
- Partner with private and federally funded Pre-Kindergarten children, the local middle and high school to share school information about parent engagement activities that will help prepare parents and their child for kindergarten and improve school transition.
- Share information 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 school-wide 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 on the importance of parental involvement.
- Provide necessary materials for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- Collaborate with community leaders and business groups to increase participation and awareness of the school parental involvement plan and activities.
- Offer parent classes to help further enhance their child's various education backgrounds.
- Listen and respond to parent's requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.

### **Parental Engagement**

Folkston Elementary believes that parent engagement means the participation of parents in regular two-way, 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 of their child;
- The carrying out of the activities as described in this plan.