

J. W. Stewart Middle School
Parent and Family Engagement Policy
for Shared Student Success
2023-2024 School Year



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Plan Revised Aug 18, 2023

What is Title I?

Stewart Middle 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 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 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 Stewart Middle will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Stewart Middle 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 Stewart Middle 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? Stewart Middle 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 to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent involvement. Parents can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities throughout the school year and as well as during PAC meetings.

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. Stewart Middle will provide full opportunity for the participation of families with limited English, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available?

At the beginning of the year, the plan is sent home with a copy of the LEA (District) Parent and Family Engagement Plan and the Title I School-Parent Compact with all students. It is also posted on the Stewart Middle School website, and additional copies are available in the Parent Resource Center.



2023-2024 District Goals

The district goal for the 23-24 school year has one addition. Douglas County School System – Title I: The percentage of students scoring at Proficient or Distinguished Learner on the Georgia Milestones (GMAS) English Language Arts and Math End of Grade Assessments will increase by six percentage points.

2023-2024 School Goals

Stewart Middle School will increase the percentage of students scoring at Proficient or Distinguished Learner on the Georgia Milestones (GMAS) English Language Arts and Math End of Grade Assessment by six percentage points.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan Stewart Middle 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 and during the Parent Advisory Council meeting.

You Are Invited!

Stewart Middle School 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:

<i>Fall Semester</i>	<i>Spring Semester</i>
Annual Title I Meeting <u>September 11, 2023</u> <u>10:00am and 4:30pm</u> Learn more about Stewart Middle School's Title I Program & Student Performance Data.	Parent Advisory Council Meeting & Link Between Student Health & Academic Success <u>January 10, 2024 at 5:30pm</u> Parents are invited to join us for our second PAC Meeting as we reflect on 2023-2024 and plan for the 2024-2025 school year. We will also discuss how general student health & wellbeing effect student learning development.
Parent Advisory Council Meeting & Study Skills <u>September 18, 2023 at 5:00 pm</u> Join us for our first PAC meeting & to learn more about effective study habits for our students.	Georgia Milestone Test Prep <u>February 12, 2024 at 5:30pm</u> Come out and learn important test taking tips and strategies for the Georgia Milestones Assessment.
Math Night <u>October 23, 2023 at 5:30 pm</u> Join us to learn more about the new math standards and strategies to improve student math skills in Middle School.	Parent Advisory Council Meeting <u>May 01, 2024 at 6:00 pm</u> Join us for review of our 2024 Annual Parent Survey and planning for the 2024-2025 school year.
Pastries with the Principal <u>November 13, 2023 at 9:30 am</u> Join Dr. Jefferson for a Q&A session concerning grading policies, safety & discipline, and promotion	Middle School Orientation <u>May 09, 2024 at 5:30pm</u> Rising 6 th graders & new students are invited to get insight as to expectations at Stewart MS, meet teachers, tour school

Stewart Middle school invites all parents to join the Parent Advisory Council to share ideas and provide input on school policies and build partnerships with school, families and the community.

Please be advised that dates and times are subject to change due to inclement weather.

Parent and Family Engagement

Stewart Middle 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 student's learning.
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their student's education at school.
- That parents are full partners in their student's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their student
- The carrying out of other activities as described in this plan.
- That we adopt and implement model approaches for improving parent and family engagement, as well as training of parents to enhance the involvement of other parents and family members.

Stewart Middle is committed to helping our families attend the parent and family engagement activities listed in this plan. Please contact us if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs.

(770) 651-5400.

Stewart Eagles are Soaring!

Stewart Middle 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 in both English and Spanish, and posted on the school website.
- ✓ Conduct staff development on parent involvement practices and effective strategies for staff to communicate and build partnerships with parents.
- ✓ Share information in English and Spanish on the school website and in print media for parents to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their student'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, emails, and school website post.
- ✓ 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 student to improve their student's achievement.
- ✓ Collaborate with our partners in education to increase participation and awareness of the school parental involvement plan and activities.
- ✓ Listen and respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.
- ✓ Encourage parents to volunteer and participate in their student's school and have at least one conference with their student's teachers.
- ✓ In cases where the students reside in a Neglected and Delinquent residential facility, a representative from that facility can serve as a proxy for the parent(s).

Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Stewart Middle and our families 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

Parent Advisory Council

Stewart Middle invites all families to join the Parent Advisory Council to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet three times during the school year, but parents can also submit their ideas or suggestions during all activities and meetings as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the Parent Advisory Council, please contact Dr. Jefferson at (770) 651-5406 or complete the interest form and leave it in the Main Office.

Parent Advisory Council

- ☐ Yes, I am excited about joining the Parent Advisory Council (PAC).
- ☐ Yes, please contact me so I can learn more about the Parent Advisory Council.
- ☐ Yes, this sounds like a great idea, please keep me posted about future meetings.

Name: _____

Student'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 plan that you feel is not satisfactory, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the Main Office.

Name: (optional) _____

Telephone Number: (optional) _____

