

**Matilda Harris Elementary School  
Parent Involvement Plan  
for Shared Student Success**

**2016-2017 School Year**



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**What is Title I?**

Matilda Harris Elementary School 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 Matilda Harris Elementary School will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Matilda Harris Elementary School 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 Matilda Harris Elementary School 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?** Matilda Harris 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 and provide feedback throughout the year. We also distribute an annual survey (online and paper sent home) that asks parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent involvement.

**What feedback was indicated?** The yearly survey showed that parents prefer information instead of workshops on improving math skills, reading skills, and on test preparation. Parents also prefer workshops held in the afternoon and evening over morning and lunch times. Activities will be planned to address these needs during the 2016-17 school year.

**Who is it for?** All students and their families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Matilda Harris Elementary School will provide full opportunity for the participation of all parents, including those with limited English, parents of students with disabilities, parents of homeless and migratory children, as well guardians of neglected or delinquent children.

**Where is it available?** Once adopted, the plan is posted on the school website, in the parent resource center, and in the front office.



## 2016-2017 District Goals

-To increase Math GMAS (Georgia Milestones Assessment System) performance at the elementary (53% to 56%), middle (43% to 46%), and high school (56.5% to 59.5%) levels.

-To increase ELA GMAS performance at the elementary (45% to 48%), middle (42% to 45%), and high school (50% to 53%) levels.

**The Parent Resource Room is the last room on the left down A Wing.**

**Parent Resource Center Times: 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.**

## 2016-2017 School Goals

-Increase the percentage of students in the proficient and distinguished levels (3-4) from 48% to 51% on the 2017 ELA GMAS for grades 3-5.

-Increase the percentage of students in the proficient and distinguished level from 56% to 59% on the 2017 Mathematics GMAS for grades 3-5.

-Increase the percentage of students in grade three scoring a 650 or higher Lexile from 56% to 59% on the 2017 GMAS.

## School-Parent Compact

As part of this plan, Matilda Harris Elementary School and our families will develop a School-Parent Compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students develop together that explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all of our students reach grade-level standards. The compact will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers. Parents will retain a copy of the compact for their use. Additionally, the compact can be viewed online, and will be provided to parents upon request. Teachers will review the compact with parents during conferences.

## Parent Involvement Standards

Camden County Schools adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the county's model in engaging parents, students, and the community.

### National PTA Standards

1. Welcoming All Families
2. Communicating Effectively
3. Supporting Student Success
4. Speaking Up for Every Child
5. Sharing Power
6. Collaborating With Community

Matilda Harris Elementary School invites all parents to participate in scheduled meetings, to share ideas and ways to involve other parents, and to build partnerships with the school, families, and the community. Meetings are held throughout 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 our website. To learn more about Title I meetings, please contact the school.

**Please like us on Facebook!**

<https://www.facebook.com/matilda.harris.543>



### **Parental Involvement**

Matilda Harris 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, to ensure the following.

- Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- 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.
- Activities as described in this plan will be carried out.

Matilda Harris Elementary School is committed to helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please call 912-729-2940 or email [hheron@camden.k12.ga.us](mailto:hheron@camden.k12.ga.us) if you have any questions or if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs.

### **Matilda Harris Elementary School is branching out!**

Matilda Harris Elementary School 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 requested languages (per home language survey), and posted on the school website and included in school newsletter for all parents.
- Conduct ongoing staff development on parent involvement practices and effective strategies for staff to communicate and build partnerships with parents.
- Share information to assist parents in understanding the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- Assist parents in setting up parent PowerSchool e-mail alert messages.
- Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, via phone messages, Facebook, 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 workshops and information on relevant topics.
- Listen and respond to parents' requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.
- Assist parents and students in transitions between early childhood programs and elementary school and between elementary and middle school.

## Let's Get Together!

***Matilda Harris Elementary School hosts 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.***

- 1. School Council Meetings:** The MHES School Council meets on the last Monday of every month at 3:00 p.m. (except June). All parents are encouraged to attend. The MHES School Council discusses school issues, provides input, and makes recommendations to the principal.
- 2. PTO Meetings:** The MHES PTO will hold meetings the second Thursday of the month from 6:00-7:00 p.m.. All parents are welcome to come and join the PTO Officers in discussing events and activities that will benefit our students. Regular PTO meetings are scheduled several times a year in conjunction with student performances and programs.
- 3. MHES Open House:** Monday, August 9, 2013, 4:00-6:00 p.m. All parents were invited to tour the school, get information, and meet their child's teacher prior to the first day of school.
- 4. Pre-K Parent Orientation:** Monday, August 11, 5:00 p.m.
- 5. Kindergarten Parent Orientation:** Monday, August 8, 5:00 p.m.
- 6. First Grade Orientation:** Wednesday, August 10, 5:30 p.m.
- 7. Second Grade Orientation:** Tuesday, August 9, 4:30 p.m.
- 8. Third Grade Orientation:** Tuesday, August 9, 5:30 p.m.
- 9. Fourth Grade Orientation:** Wednesday, August 17, 5:00 p.m.
- 10. Fifth Grade Orientation:** Email Blast
- 11. Title One Stakeholder Meeting:** Tuesday, August 9, 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Topics to be addressed: Title One Overview and Eligibility, Test Data, Critical Issues and Action Plans, School Improvement Plan/Parent Involvement Plan, Title One Budget, Parent Involvement Survey Results, Program Evaluation, Parent-Teacher Compact.
- 12. Annual Title One Meeting:** Wednesday, August 17, 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. All interested parent and community members are invited to attend. Topics to be addressed: Title One Overview and Eligibility, Test Data, Critical Issues and Action Plans, School Improvement Plan/Parent Involvement Plan, Title One Budget, Parent Involvement Survey Results, Program Evaluation, Parent-Teacher Compact.
- 13. Kindergarten Academic Parent-Teacher Teams (APTT) Meetings:** September 27, 4:00 p.m., January 10, 4:00 p.m., & April 11, 4:00 p.m.
- 14. EOG Parent Overview Spring 2016**
- 15. Terrific Kids Programs:** In these quarterly programs, teachers recognize students for outstanding achievements, helping others, being role models for other students, and good character. Parents are invited to attend.
- 16. Field Day:** Held in May near the end of school year. Parents are invited to volunteer and help run stations