

**Gilbert Elementary School  
Parent & Family Engagement Policy  
and Plan for  
Shared Student Success  
2020-2021 School Year**



**Gilbert Elementary School  
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Plan Revised August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**What is Title 1?**

Title 1 is a federal aid program for public schools in the United States. It originated from the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) as part of President Johnson's "War on Poverty". The educational bill changed funding of school districts from a local level to a national responsibility. Title 1 provides federal funds to schools with high percentages of low-income students to help pay for extra educational services to help at risk students. Title I is a federal entitlement program that gives funds to schools in need based on student enrollment, the free and reduced lunch percentage for each school, and other informative data. Each school district divides its funding among qualifying schools based on their numbers of low-income children.

**School Plan for Shared Student Achievement**

**What is it?**

This is a plan that describes how Gilbert Elementary School will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Gilbert 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 Gilbert Elementary School will support parent engagement and how parents can help and participate in activities and events to promote learning at school and at home.

**How is it developed?**

Gilbert 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. We distribute an annual survey online to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent involvement. For families without Internet access, paper copies of the survey will be made available on the information table outside the front office. Parents and family members can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities during the school year including our Data Nights.

**Who is it for?**

All students participating in the Title 1, Part A program, and their families, are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Gilbert Elementary School will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, disabilities and of migratory children.

**Where is it available?**

At the beginning of the year, the plan is sent home with all students. The plan will also be posted on the school website and social media. Parents can also pick up a copy of the plan in the parent resource center.

### **2020/2021 District Goals**

Walker County Schools' Title 1 Schools will by May 2021, 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.

### **2020/2021 School Goals**

Gilbert Elementary School will increase Reading proficiency by 3% from Fall 2020 to Spring 2021.

#### **The focus for reading is:**

K-1: Beginning sounds and sight words  
K-5: Vocabulary development

### **School-Parent Compacts**

As part of this plan, Gilbert Elementary School and our families will develop a school-parent compact. This is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop together that explains how each party will work together to ensure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be sent home with all students at the beginning of the school year. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers at the Annual Evaluation meeting. The compacts are kept on file with the Family Engagement Coordinator if parents would like a copy.

## **Let's Get Together!**

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

### **Open House – August 2020**

Meet your child's teachers, our school staff & learn helpful information to prepare for the school year.

### **Annual Input Matters Survey – October 2020**

Your input helps us to work with school and staff to ensure a great school – home partnership!

### **Annual Title 1 Meeting – October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements. Invitations will be sent home and posted on social media.

### **Fall Data – October 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

A scheduled update on your child's progress & a little taste of your child's curriculum.

### **Winter Data – January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

A Scheduled update on your child's progress & catch up with the latest resources to help support your child's learning.

### **GES – Annual Evaluation Meeting – April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Parents and family members participate in roundtable discussions with the principal and staff regarding our Family Engagement Policy, Budget and the School-Parent Compact which is vital to the success of our school.

### **Spring Data – April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

A scheduled update on your child's progress & a celebration of family engagement and the recognition of its impact on school and student success.

### **Transition Night for Kindergarten Students and Parents – April 2020**

Parents of upcoming kindergarteners in our attendance area are invited to tour the school, meet our school administrators and kindergarten teachers, and learn about the expectations and opportunities for kindergarten students.

### **Transition Night for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents- April 2020**

Parents of current fifth graders are invited to LMS to meet our administrators, tour our school and learn about the expectations, policies, and opportunities for rising middle school students.

### **Family Engagement**

Gilbert Elementary School believes that Family Engagement means the participation of parents in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other schools activities, including

- 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.

### **Support for Families**

Gilbert Elementary School is committed to helping our Families attend the Family Engagement activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs. There are also resources such as books, study materials, and activities for check out in our Parent Resource Center.

(706) 638-2432

[jennifercapello@walkerschools.org](mailto:jennifercapello@walkerschools.org)

Jennifer Capello

Family Engagement Coordinator

### **Gilbert Elementary School Wants You!**

Gilbert 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 a language you can understand, and posted on the school website and included in the monthly newsletter for all parents.
- √ Share information on the school website and 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, flyers, and newsletters.
- √ Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parental involvement and how to support student learning.
- √ Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at 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.
- √ Listen and respond to parents' requests for additional support for parental involvement activities like childcare and transportation.
- √ Offer literacy and computer classes for parents and family members to help further enhance their various educational levels.

### **Parent Volunteer & PTO**

Gilbert Elementary School invites all parents to volunteer. We encourage your input on ways to build & strengthen relationships between parents, students, staff and community.

In addition to volunteering we would love for our guardians to join our PTO and help us build a better school for our Gators!

If you are interested in volunteering or PTO please complete the interest form. You will be required to complete several steps before being allowed to volunteer.



### ***PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT STANDARDS***

Gilbert Elementary and our parents have adopted the National PTO 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 Volunteer/ PTO Form**

- ☐ Yes, I am excited about joining the PTO.  
☐ Yes, I would like to be a parent volunteer.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name & Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Availability: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Share Your Thoughts**

**We want to hear from you. If you have suggestions or if there is any part of this plan 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: (optional)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Number: (optional)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

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