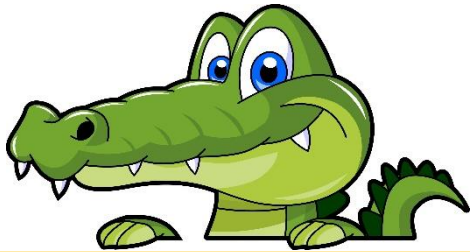


Ware County Middle School
Parent and Family Engagement Plan
for Shared Student Success
2019-2020 School Year

Dr. Shawn Benefield, Principal
2301 Cherokee Street
(912) 287-2341

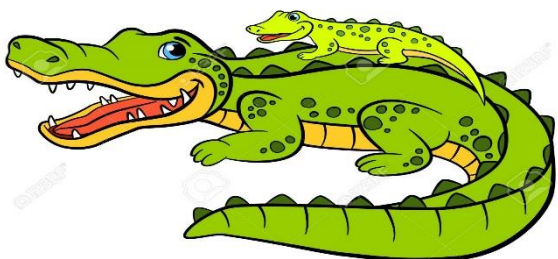
www.ware.k12.ga.us/o/ware-county-middle-school

Plan Revised June 18, 2019



What is Title I?

Ware County Middle School 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 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 Ware County Middle School will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Ware County Middle 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 Ware County Middle 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?

Ware County Middle School invites all parents to review and provide input and comments at any time regarding our parent and family engagement policy. Additionally, our plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We also distribute an annual survey online and through various social media outlets 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, School Improvement Team meetings, and activities during the school year including our annual Curriculum Night and Milestone Mania events. Parents have opportunities to provide feedback on the School-Wide Plan, School-Parent Compact, and family engagement budget.

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. Ware County Middle will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, and of migratory children.

Where is it available?

At the beginning of the year, the plan is included in our welcome packet that is given to all students. The plan is also available on the school website, social media outlets, and from the Parent Engagement Coordinator, Mrs. Alicia Crawford. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Center located in our Media Center.

2019-20 District Goal

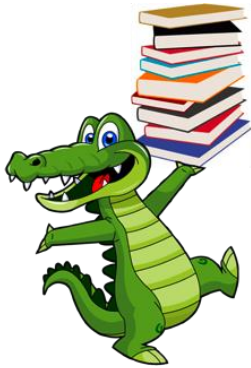
Increase academic achievement in ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies 3% in proficient and distinguished on Georgia Milestones in FY20.

2019-20 School Goal

Increase by 3 percentage points the number of students performing on grade level in all content areas (Math, Science, Social Studies, and ELA) as measured by GMAS Spring test administration.

2019-20 Area of Emphasis

Acquire and use new vocabulary using all appropriate resources.



School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Ware County Middle 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 to portray current academic needs and our vision for change to address each of them. Everyone involved signs the school-parent compact committing themselves to working diligently to uphold these responsibilities.

Let's Get Together!

Ware County Middle 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.

6th Grade Camp Gator – July 23, 2019 from 8:30 – 12:30 at WCMS

Counselors and teachers will provide information to rising 6th grade students about scheduling and classes.

6th Grade Parent Workshop at Camp Gator – July 23, 2019 from 11:45 - 12:30 in the Media Center

Parents of upcoming 6th graders will be provided with valuable information for the upcoming school year.

Open House – July 2019

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

Curriculum Night – August 2019

Sample a little bite from the different areas of your child's academics. Parents will be provided with resources to help their child succeed at WCMS.

Annual Title I Meeting – September 2019

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. We also provide information about Parent's Right to Know teacher qualifications. Invitations will be sent home with students and posted in the school newsletter, social media, and local media.

PTOs

Learn helpful information and receive great resources to support students academically throughout the year.

Milestone Mania – Spring 2020

Learn about Georgia Milestones Assessment System (Georgia Milestones or GMAS) administration dates, gain hands-on experience with how you can better aid your child as they prepare for successful testing sessions. Enjoy a delicious dinner and possibly win a great door prize!

Spring Input Meeting – Spring 2020

We invite you to come and provide input about our Title I program, including our parent engagement plan, the school-wide improvement plan, the school-parent compact, and the parent's right to know.

WCMS Informational Meetings – TBA throughout the school year

Gain knowledge about topics relevant to your child's education, such as: writing, reading, and math at home; Review school plans, and catch up on the latest technical resources to help support your child's learning.

Parent Resource Center

Come visit the Parent Resource Center to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child. Computers are available for parents to explore the Parent Portal and educational resources.

Monday – Friday, 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Parent and Family Engagement

Ware County 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 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.

Ware County Middle 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.

Alicia Crawford
Parent Engagement Coordinator
macrawford@ware.k12.ga.us
(912) 287-2341

Ware County Middle School is Branching Out!

Ware County Middle will take the following measures to promote and support parents and family members 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 English, Spanish, or other languages (upon request) on the school website, and included in correspondence for all families. Information concerning academic standards and assessments will also be made available in English, Spanish, or other requested languages.
- ✓ Provide periodic staff development on effective parent communication, strategies to improve communication and partnerships with parents, and ideas to increase family engagement with curriculum outside of the classroom. Staff will also share best practices during scheduled academy meetings.
- ✓ Partner with early childhood programs, middle and high schools, college and career ready resources or organizations, parent resource centers, or other programs (as applicable) to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitions. Provide opportunities for parents to discuss school transitions from 5th to 6th grade and 8th to 9th grade for students.
- ✓ Share information in English and Spanish on the school media outlets and in the school newsletter for parents to understand school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials for parents at conferences, meetings, and trainings to aid parents as they work with their children to improve academic achievement. Surveys are great tools used to gather information about the needs of our parents.
- ✓ Collaborate with community leaders and business groups to increase participation and awareness of the school parental engagement plan and activities, workshops, and trainings.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, through phone messages, social media, newsletters, Remind, Class DOJO, newspapers, 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 parent and family engagement policy.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents and family members at various events, have input cards available upon request and allow parents to email suggestions to school staff using the school website in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.

Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Ware County Middle School 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 Improvement Team

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the School Improvement Team.
- Please contact me so I can learn more in joining the School Improvement Team.
- Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

School Improvement Team

Ware County Middle invites all parents to join the School Improvement Team to share ideas and ways to involve other parents and family members to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team may meet periodically during the school year, but parents and family members are welcome to submit their ideas or suggestions at any school activities and meetings, as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the School Improvement Team, please contact the principal at (912) 287-2341 or notify the staff in the Main Office.

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 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) _____

