

School Level Parental Involvement Policy Marietta Sixth Grade Academy

MSGA Parent Involvement Policy School Year 2018-2019



Marietta Sixth Grade Academy

Mr. Corey Lawson, Principal

340 Aviation Road Marietta, GA 30060

(770) 429-3115

<http://msga.marietta-city.org>

Plan last revised July 27, 2018

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it? This is a plan that describes how Marietta Sixth Grade Academy will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Marietta Sixth Grade Academy 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 in which MSGA supports parent engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and home.

How is it developed? We developed this Parent Involvement Policy using a variety of feedback including annual parent surveys, parent skills/interests inventory, meeting and event feedback, parent/teacher conferences, our school governance team (SGT), school board, and PTSA. Also, data was collected from different sources and analyzed to identify areas to target, and to ensure alignment with our school improvement plan. We believe that by collaborating with all stakeholders, we will support the important role of parents in the education of their children. Students were asked in advisement classes how could parents, teachers and students collaborate for their success.

Who is it for? All families at MSGA participate in the Title I, Part A program. They all are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. This includes parents with limited English, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available? Every parent is given a copy of this Parent Involvement Policy during the first Parent-Student-Teacher conference. It is sent by email to all parents, posted in the website, and printed in the Parent Liaison office.

What is Title I?

Marietta Sixth Grade Academy is identified as a Title I school as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). This means that MSGA receives funds from the Federal Government through State Educational Agencies to be used for the purpose of providing extra educational assistance and support materials beyond the regular classroom. The amount of Title I funding MSGA receives is determined by the number of low-income students attending our school. MSGA is a school-wide Title I school, therefore, all students benefit from Title I Funding.

MSGA is committed to helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare, translation or transportation in order to participate in our programs.

(770 429-3115) ext. 5813

vhunter@marietta-city.k12.ga.us

Parental Involvement

MSGA believes that parent involvement means the participation of parents in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- 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.

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MSGA is Getting YOU Connected!

MSGA 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 –

- ✓ Continuously use multi-faceted, bilingual avenues of communication which may include MSGA School and teacher web pages, online calendars, monthly e-newsletter(s), monthly calendar and newsletter, student agendas, Blue Devil Delivery folders, school billboard and town hall meetings.
- ✓ Conduct staff development on parent involvement practices and effective strategies for staff to communicate and build partnerships with parents.
- ✓ Partner with elementary schools to share school information about parent engagement activities and build relationships that will help prepare families through a smooth transition.
- ✓ Share information through different venues and languages for parents to understand academic standards and assessments, as well as ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ✓ Work with parents to develop computer skills and learn English through Rosetta Stone to better support their children academically.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child towards academic excellence.
- ✓ Foster and maintain ongoing communications with parents/guardians concerning opportunities for involvement, their children's eligibility for special programs, educational progress, professional qualifications of their children's teachers, and school as it relates to state and federal growth targets.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, MSGA and our families develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement between parents, teachers, and students to 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 during several event including Advisement classes for students. Coffee Talks with the Principal, Side by Side workshops and Parent Surveys among others, for parents and Staff meetings, Department Chair meetings and Team Leader meetings for teachers. School-Family compacts are kept in each student's advisement folder, to be reviewed during the school year, especially during conferences.

Mark Your Calendar...Let's Get Together!

MSGA will host several events to build capacity for strong parental involvement, and to support a partnership among school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. We understand that the transition to 6th grade can be challenging and have designed events to facilitate this process. Some of these events are:

- ✓ **August 1: Meet and Greet** (helping families meet and get to know teachers and school staff.)
- ✓ **August 21: Side by Side/Tools for Success for the Middle School Student** (Aspen, Odyssey, Compass Learning, etc) 9:30am-10:15am and 5:30pm-6:30pm
- ✓ **August 23: Open House** 6:30pm-7:45pm
- ✓ **September 12: Side by Side/ Math/ELA Essentials** 5:30pm-6:30pm
- ✓ **October 25: PrinciPAL Pow-Wow /Title I meeting:** (Conversations on engagement, Title I presentation) 6:30-7:30
- ✓ **March 13: Side by Side/ Preparing for Testing** 9:30am-10:30am