



## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

### Teaching All To Achieve Excellence

Tate Elementary School (TES) understands that a strong partnership between the school and parents is vital to ensure the success of our students. At Tate Elementary we recognize that parents are their children's primary teacher and their support is necessary in our efforts to provide a quality education for all students. We believe teachers and parents share the responsibility for a child's success. Communication between home and school is vital to setting positive examples for our children. Tate Elementary is also dedicated to the system mission: "Graduation and Life Preparation for All"

Tate Elementary 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 parental involvement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with all parents a written parental involvement plan.

**What is it?** This is a plan that describes how Tate Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Tate Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents in order to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement and in creating opportunities for parents to participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

**How is it developed?** Tate Elementary School welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding this plan and the Title I schoolwide plan. Parent input forms will be available to all parents of students enrolled in Tate Elementary to involve parents in the development of this plan, the Compact, the schoolwide plan, and the use of the 1% parent involvement funds. All parent feedback will be considered in the revision of all plans. This Parent Involvement Plan (PIP) is posted on our school website for parents to view and to provide us with their feedback throughout the year. We also distribute an annual survey asking parents for their review of our Title I Program, as well as for all plans. This survey provides questions for parents to offer input on how the 1% parent involvement funds are spent. Parents can also give feedback during our annual Pickens County Parent Action Committee meetings. This plan will be updated at least annually to reflect the changing needs of the parents, students, and/or school. If the plan is not satisfactory to parents, parent comments will be submitted to the district.

**Who is it for?** All students participating in the Title I, Part A Program and their families are both encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this Parent Involvement Plan. Tate Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English skills, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

**Where is it available?** At the beginning of the year, the PIP Parent Involvement Plan will be sent home with students in their Title I packets, posted on the school website, made available at all schools, Title I Meetings, annual Title I events, and at the Pickens County Parent Action Committee meetings.

**What is the Compact?** At the beginning of each school year Tate Elementary School will share with students and their parents a Parent/School/Student Compact. This compact has been developed with input from teachers, parents and students and is reviewed annually for any revisions that need to be made. Teachers review the compact with students in a timely manner at the beginning of the school year. Teachers, parents and students are asked to sign the compact as an understanding of the expectations being set for learning during the upcoming year. The purpose of the Compact is to help students achieve the challenging State academic standards.

**What is the Annual Title I Meeting?** Parents learn about Title I and Schoolwide Programs; the Georgia Standards of Excellence; the Georgia Milestones Assessment; our Title I Program including our School Parent Involvement Plan, Parent/School/Student Compact, the Title I School-wide Plan, how the 1% parent involvement funds are spent; and other Title I requirements. This meeting will be held before November 1, 2017.



To maximize the success of our students the following programs are planned to engage and encourage parent involvement. Please refer to our county school calendar for holidays and academic dates, such as progress reports and report cards:

1. Our school staff will use a variety of communication strategies to provide additional information to parents and to increase parental involvement in support classroom instruction:
  - a. The school will make available a weekly class newsletter for kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades and a monthly newsletter for grades 4th and 5th.
  - b. A monthly school newsletter will be sent home during the first week of the month. This newsletter includes school news, a calendar of school activities, and parenting tips relating to school achievement such as homework tips, organizational skills, and study skills.
  - c. The school will maintain a website that links to classroom websites for each teacher. On the classroom websites, parents will be able to access the classroom newsletter that will have information on homework assignments, classroom calendar, and other pertinent information. Parents will also be able to communicate with school staff using email.
  - d. Each parent will be provided a username and password so they can access their child's grades and attendance information. This information will be updated in a timely manner.
  - e. Teachers will send home a folder containing student papers and work samples. Parents are asked to review the work and return the folder.
  - f. The school will provide to parents a report card every nine weeks and progress reports between report card dates with information regarding their child's academic progress.
  - g. The school will send home notices with students, post notices in the school and on social media, use our mass notification telephone system, and provide information for local newspapers about parent workshops and meetings.
  - h. Tate Elementary School will ensure they have appropriate representation at the Pickens County Parent Advisory Council meetings at which survey results will be distributed and input taken into consideration while reviewing and revising the LEA Parent Involvement Policy, TES Parent Involvement Policy, TES Parent Involvement Plan, and TES Parent/Student/School Compact, TES Title I Schoolwide Plan, and the Comprehensive Local Education Agency Improvement Plan.
  - i. TES will maintain a School Advisory Council, whose majority membership will consist of parents. This council will hold open meetings no less than 4 times yearly, and will act as a liaison between parents and the school administration when needed.
  - j. TES will work with parents to inform staff members of the importance of effective communication and parental involvement via newsletter and staff meetings.
2. The School will hold parent meetings, conferences, and activities throughout the year to increase parental involvement and build parent and family capacity.
  - a. TES will have outside speakers and educators conduct curriculum nights and parenting workshops to provide parents with strategies and ideas on how they can help to enhance their child's education. Materials are provided during the training so that parents can support their child's learning at home.
  - b. TES will conduct an annual Title I meeting to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation as well as the parents' right under Title 1.
  - c. TES parents will learn about and have an opportunity to provide input on our Title I program including our school parent involvement plan, district parent involvement plan, parent/school/student compact, the Title I schoolwide plan, how parent involvement funds are spent, and other Title I requirements.
  - d. TES will hold a yearly book fair. Parents will be invited to visit the book fair at various times during the day and evening. This will help provide an opportunity for parents and their student(s) to experience the school environment together with an emphasis on literacy and its importance.
  - e. TES will hold an annual open house offering parents, students, and other family members the opportunity to meet and speak with faculty, staff, and administrators allowing for questions to be

answered and the curriculum to be explained. Teachers will allow parents the opportunity to request regular meetings at any time during the CAMP time.

- f. Information regarding the Georgia Milestones Assessment, Title I-A requirements, and the Georgia Standards for Excellence is shared. Parents are also provided information explaining academic standards, achievement goals, and learning targets and suggestions as to how they can participate in achieving these. Additionally, information is provided to parents explaining homework, grading procedures, assessment results, and how to interpret those results.
- g. TES will hold parent-teacher conferences at least once each year to discuss the student's success and to offer suggestions in the areas needed.
- h. The school will partner with the middle schools and preschools in the county to help provide a smooth transition from one school to another by raising parent awareness of procedures and activities. Teachers will hold meetings with other teachers and parents to help in this process. Families are invited to participate in Kindergarten Transition Night, where parents and students visit the school the student will attend, providing an opportunity to learn more about the school and what can be done at home to get ready for Kindergarten.
- i. TES will hold trainings and provide informational materials through emails and/or newsletters in order to train teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other staff, with assistance of parents, to educate personnel on how to reach out, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners and to build ties between home and school.
- j. TES will engage parents in the following types of activities and roles to increase involvement, to help make parents more comfortable in the school environment, and to support student learning (refreshments will be provided when appropriate):

**To Support Academics**

- Parents as Teacher Assistants
- Parents as Tutors
- Parent Education Workshops
- Red Ribbon Week
- Various Committees
- Family Movie Night
- Student Performances
- Science/Math Night
- Title I Celebration

**To Support Climate**

- Special Parent Luncheons
- Book Fair Helpers
- Grandparents Day Luncheon
- Olympic Volunteers
- Orientation Presentations
- Parent-Teacher Organization
- White Christmas Program
- Fall Festival
- Open House

3. The school will provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities:
  - a. The school will provide opportunities for parents and community members to support the learning environment through programs such as our mentoring program and our School Advisory Council.
4. The school, along with the county, will provide an opportunity for parents to engage in decision-making processes regarding the school's Title I, Part A Program:
  - a. The Pickens County Parent Advisory Council will ensure adequate representation from each school to review and revise the Title I, Part A documentation and programs. Examples include but are not limited to, District and School level Parent Involvement Plans, the District's Improvement Plan, the Title I Schoolwide Plan, and the School/Parent/Student Compact.
5. The school will provide a parent resource center located in the front hallway of the school which will be assessable to parents throughout the school day.
  - a. Materials will be made available to parents on various topics that will help with educational and emotional topics. There will also be materials for parents to check out and available computers at the school where parents can use to check grades. The school will have copies of the Parent Involvement Plan available in the resource center.
6. The school will involve parents in the evaluation process of parental involvement efforts:

- a. The school will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the Title I, Part A Program's parental involvement efforts through an annual evaluation using an assessment parents helped create. This assessment will then be used to determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement program. This assessment will provide us with information on the (1) effectiveness of specific strategies, (2) engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth, and (3) growth in numbers of parents attending workshops and meetings. In addition, this assessment will ask for and encourage parental input on ways to improve all areas of parental involvement.