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# Family School Partnership Policy

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Clear Creek Middle School, Ellijay GA - 2018-19 [Revised 8/30/18]

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## Preparing Our Students

The faculty and staff at Clear Creek Middle School believe that a partnership must exist between our parents and our school. Our vision, *CCMS students will achieve academically, behaviorally, and emotionally*, is dependent on the support of our parents as we build the bridges for our students from the elementary school to the high school. We promote positive communication between the school and our students' homes.

The school provides a variety of opportunities for parents to be involved in activities supporting our school. We believe teachers have a responsibility to provide the needed framework for parents to nurture their child's formal instruction at home. It is our goal to provide an atmosphere where parents are able to express their views and to assist in problem solving. We want parents to understand that we view them as joint policy and decision makers and plan to emphasize their roles as advocates.

### Jointly Developed

All parents and guardians are invited to the SGT meetings to give input to the Policy during our annual Spring meeting. Opportunities for feedback are given via automated phone calls, *Times Courier* advertisement, signage outside the school, personal contact during carpool pickup, school webpage, Facebook posts and through parent surveys. CCMS will submit comments from parents about the Plan to the district.

The School Governance Team, consisting of teachers, administrators, parents, and community members, met to analyze data from surveys and discussions with all stakeholders. All parents are invited to monthly SGT meetings. Using this data, the committee led a process to develop the following list of services and activities to promote parental involvement and provide additional support for student learning. Our Policy was sent home with each student, available in the school office, and online. (CCMS website, About Us, Documents, Title I)

### Title I Meeting

Title I Night was held on Thursday, Sept. 27, 2018 at 5:15 with a follow-up session on 9/28/17 at 8:00am. The presentation included information in English and Spanish. Future meetings will be held with various times - typically a morning and afternoon session.

### Communications

Our two-way communication occurs with the webpage, teacher webpages, e-mail, Infinite Campus, Google Classroom, text messaging, phone calls, Facebook, Skype upon request, and notes/letters in both English & Spanish. Routinely, progress reports are sent home. The school will provide parents with copies of their child's test scores along with explanation of the scores in English and Spanish. Student MAP reports and interpretation were sent home the week of 8/24/18.

➤ disponible en español



## Family School Partnership Compact

School staff, parents, and students will jointly develop a Family School Partnership Compact. This document will outline how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improved student achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards. The document will be used to support setting goals and working towards student achievement.

### Reservation of Funds

GCCSS uses 1% of the Title I funds to partially pay for a system and building level coordinator and related materials for parental involvement. All parents are invited to vote on decisions regarding how reserved funds are allotted in the annual Spring meeting.

## Coordination of Services

Rising 7th graders take guided tours in small groups with a school ambassador each Spring.

Open House/Orientation is held before the first day of school in the Fall and advertised in the local newspaper, the *Times Courier*, and online.

Our 8th graders have multiple meetings throughout the year on making a smooth transition to high school with a comprehensive packet of information in the Spring on course selection for high school. The middle and high school counselors work closely together to ensure students are selecting the right courses for their pathway.

## Building Capacity for Parents & Staff

The school will hold parent meetings, conferences, and activities (community awareness events such as the DA's presentation on online safety) to help parents understand how to enhance their child's education. We also have several *Outreach Videos* for parent information. Please see the Parent Toolbox section for related online links. Explanations of assessments and results will be provided to assist parents in understanding their child's progress.

Feedback is encouraged during monthly School Governance Team (SGT) meetings, the mid-year School Improvement Plan survey, and the Spring parent survey. CCMS values our parent contributions and we continue to work towards building the relationship between home and school. CCMS will respond to parent requests for family engagement activities. We use professional learning time during faculty, and departmental meetings, and early release days to discuss the topic.



## Volunteer Opportunities

- Participate in /on the Governance Team
- Assist with the Book Fair
- Assist with Picture Day
- Volunteer to speak to classes regarding career and business opportunities
- Participate in Booster Club
- Assist with fundraisers
- Assist with Special Olympics
- Create bulletin boards
- Participate in setup for banquets & other functions
- Assist with nature trail upkeep

## Volunteer Application

We do have an application for all GCCSS volunteers who would like to work with students.

Applications can be picked up in the front office or online: CCMS website, About Us, Documents.

## Parent Resource Center (PRC)

We have handouts, booklets, books, and DVDs (including topics of digital citizenship & helping with homework) which provide materials for parents to be able to help their child available in our PRC. Many resources are free to take and others are available for checkout in the Media Center. Materials sent home upon request. Course syllabi are given at the beginning of each class to give more details of the curriculum.

## Infinite Campus Parent Portal

You can access your child's account by going to:

<http://www.gilmerschools.com/>

Students

Infinite Campus

Password: firstinitial lastinitial date of birth

Example for John Smith born on 4/16/2001 --- js041601

## Contact School Staff?

You can find their e-mail on the CCMS website, About Us, Staff Directory.

## Parent Toolbox

We have information available on our website including general academics, literacy, test taking strategies, social emotional and behavioral, and other parent resources located on the CCMS website – Parents, Academics, Parent Toolbox.

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## Mission statement:

Every Child,  
Every Opportunity,  
Every Day.

