

**Thomson Middle School
Parent and Family Engagement Plan
2017-2018 School Year**



**Thomson Middle School
Dr. Walter Stephens, Principal
301 Thomson Street
(478)953-0489**

Plan Revised: August 10, 2017

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it?

This is a plan that describes how Thompson Middle School will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Thompson Middle School values the contributions and engagement 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 Thompson Middle School will support parent 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?

Thompson Middle School invited all parents to attend our Annual Shared Decision Making Meetings last spring to review and revise this Parent and Family Engagement Plan, as well as the School-Wide Plan, our School-Home Compact and the parental engagement budget. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year. The 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 to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for Parental Engagement. Parents can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities during the school year. Any unsatisfactory comments regarding the Title I Plan will be reported to the district.

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. Thompson Middle School will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available?

At the beginning of the year the plan is included in the Title I Parent Handbook that is given to all families. It is also available in the school office, on the TMS website and in the Parent Resource Center.

What is Title I?

Thomson 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 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 families. Parents are an important part of the Title I team at Thomson Middle School and through this partnership work with our school in helping all students achieve. All Title I schools must jointly develop with all parents a written parental engagement plan.

District Goals

2017-2018

The mission of the Houston County School System is to product high achieving students.

- Increase the value of the district College and Career Readiness Performance Index (CCRPI) score by 3% focusing on literacy, high quality standards-based instruction and Multi-Tier System of Supports.
- Increase the percentage of parents who feel their child's school provides various opportunities for engagement

Thomson Middle School Goals

2017-2018

The Mission of Thomson Middle School is to inspire, support, and prepare all students with a quality educational experience, while building integrity and character to be successful and competitive in a global society.

- Increase the number of students scoring proficient and distinguished on the Ga Milestone by 4%, administered in April 2018 in Math and English Language Arts.

Parent and Family Engagement Partnership

Partnering with Parents is an ongoing process that increases active participation, meaningful, two-way communication and the collaboration between parents, school and communities. By stakeholders forging together we will experience consistent academic growth for all students.

We believe these goals can be achieved by ensuring –

- That the environment is conducive to create a welcoming partnership;
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning at home process;
- 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 Family Engagement Events and other activities as described in this plan.

School-Home Compacts

As part of this plan, Thomson Middle School and our families have developed a School-Home Compact. The Compact is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students developed together which explains how all parties will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The Compacts are reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students and teachers. The School-Home Compacts are kept in the Family Engagement Coordinator's office, school's front office and on the school's web-page. Signed Compacts are kept on file and will be reviewed at all parent-teacher conferences.

Building Capacity for Engagement

Thomson Middle 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 program meetings and other activities is published in both English and Spanish and in an understandable language. Events will be posted on the school website, Facebook, flyers, emails, messenger call-outs, and marquee and included in the monthly newsletter.
- Conduct at least four staff development events throughout the year that will focus on the value of parent contributions, communication in a language that parents can understand, methods to build ties between home and school and focus on parent requests for specific parent and family engagement events.
- Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parental engagement.
- Share information in English and Spanish on the school website 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, through phone messages, social media, and flyers.
- Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's Learning at Home process.
- Partner with community and business organizations to enhance activities and events listed in the Parent and Family Engagement Plan.
- Provide information on our Districts Literacy and Computer classes for parents to help further enhance their various educational levels.
- Listen and respond to parents at all events, post on the school website in order to respond to parents' request for additional support for Parental engagement activities.
- Conduct orientations for transitioning students and parents as they enter our school for the first time.

Types of Parent Engagement

We have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community. We believe these six standards will engage parents in their children's lives, allow parents to experience positive interaction with the school, to feel included in the decision-making process, to increase confidence, and most affect student academic achievement.

- ✚ Welcoming All Families
- ✚ Communicating Effectively
- ✚ Supporting Student Success
- ✚ Speaking Up for Every Child
- ✚ Sharing Power
- ✚ Collaborating with the Community

Parent Resource Center

Visit our Parent Resource Center for information and assistance with:

- ◀ Homework
 - ◀ Insightful articles
 - ◀ College and Career Readiness
 - ◀ School & Community Event information
 - ◀ Parent Engagement Program
 - ◀ State and Federal Parent Engagement Resources
 - ◀ Transitions
 - ◀ Computer w/internet available for your use
- Located in Room 318
Hours 9:00am – 3:00pm

Parent Engagement Events and Activities

Thomson Middle School will host the following events to build capacity for strong family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

- **Meet & Greet - July 2017**

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

- **Annual Title I Meeting - August 2017**

Learn 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 emailed, messenger call-out, posted in the school newsletter, and social media.

- **Volunteer and Chaperone Training – September 2017**

Training for new Volunteers and Chaperones

- **ELA & Math Get Connected**

- **October 2017 & February 2018**

Learn how to apply the "Thinking Maps" process, study skills to assist your child at home and a technology session to assist parents with home to school communication.

- **STEM Family Event - August 2017**

Working as a team to complete task using creativity, critical thinking and problem solving skills.

- **Family Literacy Events – August 2017**

Kinesthetic Learning, Reading Strategies and Parent Tool Box: Techniques and Tips

- **ELA Winter Wonderland Event – December 2017**

Workshop rotation on the Writing Process, Elaboration of Sentence Construction

- **Fall ~ Holiday ~ Spring Band Concerts**

- **100th Days of History Celebration – January 2018**

Join your child as we journey through the first 100 Days of History

- **6th, 7th & 8th Grade's Spring Musicals – Spring 2018**

- **GA Milestones Assessment – March 2018**

Getting ready, Assessment outline and Results

- **Shared Decision Making – April 2018**

A forum for parents and family members to participate in roundtable discussions with the principal and staff regarding the schoolwide plan, parent and family engagement policy, school-parent compacts, and the family engagement budget.

Parent and Family Engagement Forum and Action Team

This Forum brings together parents, teachers, administrators and community leaders to develop family engagement opportunities. Thomson Middle School invites all parents to join our Parent and Family Engagement Forum and Action Team to share your ideas and provide your input for ways to involve all parents in order to build a strong partnership with the school, our families, and the community.

The team will meet twice during the school year, but parents can always submit their ideas or suggestions during any event, activity or meeting as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more please contact the Family Engagement Coordinator at (478) 953-0489 ext. 43483 or email your information to alesia.chadwick@hcbe.net.

Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you. If you have any 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)

Contact Information: (optional)

Suggestions or Questions:

or email the above information to:

alesia.chadwick@hcbe.net