

Perry Middle School

2020-2021 Parent Engagement Plan



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Mission Statement

Our mission is to motivate, educate and promote life-long learning.

Vision Statement

Our vision is to become a school where excellence is the standard, not the goal.

Our Beliefs

- Safety is our number one priority.
- All students are unique and can learn.
- We take responsibility for learning.
- Students should be exposed to a variety of instructional methods and evaluation strategies to meet individual needs.
- A positive environment with consistency and structure produces increased learning.

Perry Middle School Parent Engagement Plan

What is it? The Perry Middle School Parent Engagement Plan describes how our school plans to support student learning by providing parents with ways to help their children succeed. Parent Engagement is a crucial factor in improving student achievement. This plan describes how parents can partner with Perry Middle School and help develop and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it revised? Perry Middle School welcomes input on the plan at any time during the year. The plan and activities are discussed at events throughout the year. Post-event surveys are reviewed to help improve activities. The Annual Title I Survey in the spring is another opportunity for parents to give feedback on the year's events. All parents are invited to attend Panther Parent meetings to help revise the plan. Also in the spring we have shared decision making opportunities so parents can review and give input on the Title I Program including documents, budget and the 1% allocation for District Parent Engagement. Parents not able to attend are welcome to have copies of any materials to be reviewed sent home. There is also a feedback link on our school website. All feedback is taken into consideration when planning for the next school year. Unsatisfactory comments regarding the Title I School Improvement Plan will be submitted to the District.

Who is it for? Title I funds received by Perry Middle School benefit all students. All students and their family members are highly encouraged to participate in all school events, workshops and programs that are planned throughout the school year. Full opportunity to participate is provided to all parents/families including Genesis House, Safe Haven, those with disabilities, parents that speak languages other than English and migratory parents.

Where is it available? The Parent Engagement Plan is included in the Title I Handbook that is given out to all students at the beginning of the year. The plan is also available on the school website under the "Parent Engagement" tab and in the Parent Resource Center. Parents can request a copy be sent to them at home any time during the year.

Title I Information

Perry Middle is a Title I School. We are eligible for Title I funding based on our percentage of students eligible for free and reduced lunch. This means that we receive additional federal funds for the purpose of improving teaching and learning for students. All students in our school benefit from these funds. Title I requires that these funds be used for programs that will improve student achievement and include ways to help parents help their children to succeed (parent engagement). All Title I schools must include parent input in the development of a written Parent Engagement policy.

2020-2021 District Goals

The mission of the Houston County School System is to produce high achieving students. Our district's mission is supported by these strategic goals:

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

2020-2021 Perry Middle School Goals

Perry Middle School's mission is to motivate, educate and promote life-long learning. Our school's mission is supported by these strategic goals:

- To decrease the percentage of all students scoring achievement level 1 and 2 in Language Arts by 3% and 2% respectively and increase the percentage of students meeting reading proficiency by 5% on the Spring GA Milestones Assessment utilizing best practices strategies, providing professional learning support for rigor/ differentiation, parent communication and using research-based interventions for RTI, special education and at- risk students.
- To decrease the percentage of all students scoring achievement level 1 and 2 in Math on the GA Milestones Assessments by 3% and 2% respectively by May 2021 by utilizing best practices strategies, providing professional learning support for rigor/differentiation, parent communication and using research-based interventions for RTI, special education and at-risk students.

Let's Get Together!

Parent and Family Engagement Program and Activities

Perry Middle School will host events throughout the year at various times to build strong parent and family engagement to support a partnership among the school, families and the community to improve student academic achievement and build capacity. Perry Middle School plans to provide the following events virtually (due to Covid-19 requirements). Here are some of the events we have planned for the year. The school website, Facebook, the school sign, call-outs and flyers sent home will have the most current information.

- **Virtual Meet & Greet** – Incoming 6th graders, new students and their families get to see the Perry Middle School campus and meet their teachers via a virtual platform. Helpful information to prepare for the school year is shared.
- **Virtual Annual Title I Meeting** – We invite you to a virtual platform of learning and sharing about our Title I Program including our Parent Engagement Plan, the School Improvement Plan and the School-Parent Compacts. Multiple means of advertisement will be used to inform families of the dates and times.
- **Virtual Open House** – Meet your student's teachers and our friendly, helpful school staff. Families will get to experience their child's schedule and be given an overview of the subject area content, curriculum and classroom expectations via a virtual platform.
- **Virtual Technology Training** – Join us for a training session on Infinite Campus to learn how to keep track of your child's grades and attendance. Visit the Perry Middle School website and our social media pages (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) to keep up on the latest happenings at our school.
- **Virtual Panther Parents** – Panther Parents will meet once a year to review our family engagement events and our Title I documents and program via a virtual platform. All parents are invited to attend these meetings.
- **Academic Newsletters** – Newsletters will be sent home with progress reports and with report cards. Newsletters will be posted on our school website. They will include information about upcoming academic content as well as important dates and times for upcoming events.
- **Virtual Milestones & More** – What you need to know about Georgia Milestones testing for all grade levels. Learn how to understand your child's test results from previous years.
- **Virtual Hotdog We're Reading** – This workshop provides an opportunity for students, families, and staff to participate in Literacy activities.

School-Parent Compacts

Part of the Perry Middle Parent and Family Engagement Plan is our School-Parent Compact.

The compact is a document that explains what teachers, parents and students will do in an effort to work together to make sure that our students successfully meet our district and school goals.

This document will be reviewed and updated each year based on input from parents, students and teachers. All parents are invited to provide feedback through our Panther Parents, shared decision making opportunities or review of the document at home. Teachers, parents and students are all asked to sign the compact and it is used during parent-teacher conferences. The signed compacts are kept on file and are available to parents upon request.

Perry Middle wants to help all our families participate in our parent engagement activities. If you need assistance attending our events please let us know. We can provide program materials to you if you are unable to attend.

Visit our Parent Information Center, located in the main office by the front counter from 7:00 to 4:00 daily for additional resources,

Feel free to contact our Family Engagement Coordinator for more information.

Chandra Young
(478) 988-6285
Chandra.Young@hcbe.net

Perry Middle School Pledge to Our Families

Perry Middle School pledges to support families as the foundation of the school in order to strengthen our school and reach our school goals. We will:

- Provide a welcoming Family Friendly environment.
- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities are posted in multiple locations including the school website, the school Facebook page and the school sign. Information will also be included in the quarterly newsletter. Call-outs, flyers and other means of communication may be used as well. All information will be available in understandable language and a family-friendly format for all families and the community.
- Conduct staff development each semester on parent engagement practices and effective strategies for staff to communicate and build ties between school and home and improve family engagement.
- Coordinate transition and orientation activities with elementary schools that will help prepare families and their children for middle school and ease school transition. Provide college and career ready resources as a transition to higher education.
- Share information on the school website, on social media and in the school newsletter to help families understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the different ways parents can monitor their student's progress and work with educators.
- Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities through the school sign, call outs, school newsletter and social media.
- Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parental engagement.
- Provide necessary materials for families at conferences, meetings and activities to help families work with their student to improve academic achievement.
- Provide information on literacy and computer classes for parents to help further enhance their various educational levels.
- Listen and respond to families' requests for additional support for family engagement.
- Collaborate with local community leaders and business groups to increase participation and awareness of the Parent Engagement Plan and activities.
- Collect feedback in various ways to enhance the activities and events listed in the plan.

Parent Engagement Standards

Perry Middle School has adopted PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships

Standard 1: Welcoming all families into the school community—Families are active participants in the life of the school, and feel welcomed, valued, and connected to each other, to school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class.

Standard 2: Communicating effectively—Families and school staff engage in regular, two-way, meaningful communication about student learning.

Standard 3: Supporting student success—Families and school staff continuously collaborate to support students' learning and healthy development both at home and at school, and have regular opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills to do so effectively.

Standard 4: Speaking up for every child—Families are empowered to be advocates for their own and other children, to ensure that students are treated fairly and have access to learning opportunities that will support their success.

Standard 5: Sharing power—Families and school staff are equal partners in decisions that affect children and families and together inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs.

Standard 6: Collaborating with community—Families and school staff collaborate with community members to connect students, families, and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation.

Panther Parents

Perry Middle School invites all families to be part of Panther Parents to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with school, families and the community.

Panther Parents is a group of parents that works together to develop our yearly parent activities and Title I documents such as the Parent Engagement Plan and School-Parent Compact. We meet once a year, but ideas and suggestions are always welcome. If you would like to learn more about Panther Parents, please contact Chandra Young at (478) 988-6285 or complete the interest form and leave it in the front office.

Share Your Thoughts/Comments/Suggestions

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this plan that you feel does not support our student and school goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your thoughts/comments/suggestions with the form on the following page.

Volunteering at Perry Middle School

If you would like to volunteer, please stop by the front office and complete a background form. The form will be notarized in the office. Background checks are good for 5 years. It is only necessary to complete one form at a school even if you have children at different schools in the county. We receive a master list with all of the volunteers listed for the district.