

Blue Ridge Elementary School

Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success

2019-2020 School Year

*Blue Ridge Elementary School
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(706) 632-5772*

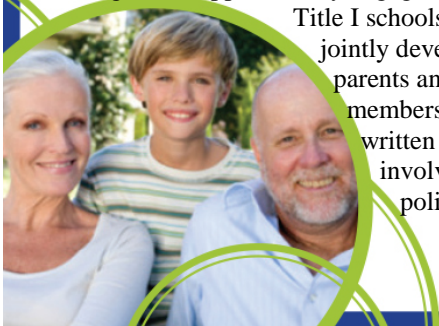
www.bres.fannin.k12.ga.us

Plan Revised August 20, 2019

What is Title I?

Blue Ridge Elementary is identified as a Title I school as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards in 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 family engagement. All

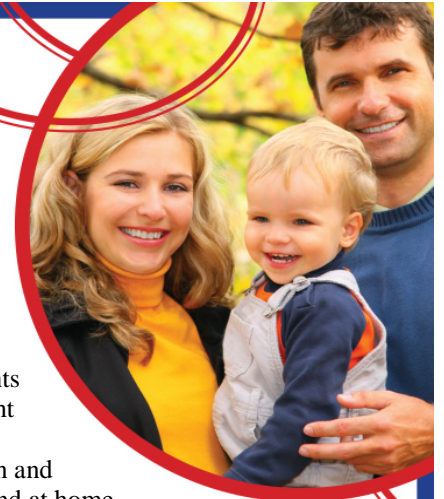
Title I schools must jointly develop with parents and family members a written parental involvement policy.



School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it?

This is a plan that describes how Blue Ridge Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Blue Ridge Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Blue Ridge Elementary 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?

Blue Ridge Elementary School invited all parents to attend our School Governance Team meetings to review and revise the parent and family engagement policy, as well as the schoolwide plan, our school-parent compact and the parental involvement 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 send students home with annual surveys, which are also made available online, to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family engagement. Parents and family members can also give feedback during parent meetings and activities throughout the school year.

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. Blue Ridge Elementary 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, Blue Ridge Elementary will send a copy of the plan home for parents in August/September. Additionally, the plan will be posted on the school website. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Center.

2019-2020 District & School Vision

The Fannin County School System holds a vision of excellence for all students with successful progression at each level and a 100% graduation rate.

2019-2020 District & School Mission

Developing Young Futures;
Learning for Tomorrow,
Today.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Blue Ridge Elementary and our families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop that explains how parents and teachers will 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 throughout the year. The school-parent compacts are kept with each child's teacher if parents need a copy. Moreover, a copy is kept in the Parent Resource Center at all times.



Let's Get Together!

Blue Ridge Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. The school will ensure that all meetings are held at various times.

Open House – August 6, 2019 - Meet your child's teacher and our friendly and helpful school staff for the year. Learn helpful information to prepare for the school year.

Annual Title I Meeting – August 20, 2019 - We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements. Notification of the meeting will be posted on the school website and Facebook page.

Curriculum Night – August 20, 2019- Parents will meet with student's teacher(s) to learn about different areas of their child's academics.

Volunteers Welcome – August 26, 2019 - Opportunity for parents to receive information on all required trainings needed in order to volunteer within the school environment.

Family Fun Nights – August 20, September 19, November 19, 2019 and March 17, 2020- Families are invited to come spend meaningful, quality time with their child's teachers. Family Fun Nights are a great way to encourage parent and family engagement through fun activities.

Milestones Assessment Meeting– February 2020 - Parents will receive an overview of the Milestones Assessment and are provided online resources to help them better assist their child in achievement.

Transition Meetings (Kindergarten and Middle School) – March 2020 & May 2020 - Parents will be offered opportunities to participate in a meeting ensuring a smooth transition from Pre-K to kindergarten and from elementary to middle school. Involvement impacts student success.

Federal Budget Stakeholder/Parent Meeting – April/May 2020 - Parents and community stakeholders are invited and encouraged to participate in our annual review of our District Comprehensive Needs Assessment and provide input into our District and School Improvement plans throughout the year. School Improvement teams and School Governance Teams comprised of parents, community members, school and district employees will review, discuss, and revise improvement plans and make tentative budget decisions each spring.

Parent-Teacher and Student Conferences –October 17, 2019 & March 13, 2020 - Scheduled updates on your child's progress.

Parent Workshops - Parents will be offered workshops on various subjects related to student achievement and building ties between parents and school.

Parent Advisory Team/Parent Teacher Organization – Monthly - Parents meet to support learning at Blue Ridge Elementary, offer input, and help involve other parents.

School Governance Team (SGT) – Monthly - SGT provides advice, recommendations, and assistance to principals and the local board of education. Then in the spring SGT provides an opportunity for parents to participate in roundtable discussions with the principal and staff regarding the school wide plan, parental involvement policy, school-parent compacts and the family engagement budget.



Parent Resource Center

Come visit the Parent Resource Center (Rm #123) to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child. Computers and iPads are available for parents to explore the Parent Portal and educational resources.

Monday – Friday, 7:30 am – 3:30 pm

Parental Involvement

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

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- 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.

Blue Ridge Elementary 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 or transportation in order to participate in our programs.

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Blue Ridge Elementary is Branching Out!

Blue Ridge Elementary 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:



- ✓ Conduct staff development on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- ✓ Partner with Head Start and Fannin County Middle School by conducting joint staff meetings for parents and sending school information about parent engagement activities to help prepare parents and their child for school transitions.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, through Blackboard messages, social media, and flyers.
- ✓ Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parental involvement.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- ✓ Use our community leaders and business groups to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement policy.
- ✓ Offer classes for parents and family members to help further enhance their various educational levels.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents and family members at events, place input cards around the building and a post suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.

Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Blue Ridge Elementary and our parents have adopted the following standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community. These standards are:

1. Welcoming All Families
2. Communicating Effectively
3. Supporting Student Success
4. Speaking Up for Every Child
5. Sharing Power
6. Collaborating with Community

Parent Advisory Team/Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

Blue Ridge Elementary invites all parents to join the Parent Advisory Team/Parent Teacher Organization to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet monthly during the school year, but parents can also submit their ideas or suggestions at any school activities and meetings, as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the Parent Advisory Team/PTO, please contact the school at

(706) 632-5772 or
complete the
interest form and
leave it in the
Main Office
or Parent
Resource
Center.

Parent Advisory Team/Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

- ☐ Yes, I am interested and wish to join the Parent Advisory Team/PTO
- ☐ Please contact me so I can learn more joining the Parent Advisory Team/PTO
- ☐ Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this policy 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 or Parent Resource Center:

Name: (optional) _____

Telephone Number: (optional) _____

