

# St. Marys Middle School

## *Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success 2023-2024*

*St. Marys Middle School  
Dr. Angela B. McManigal, Principal  
205 Martha Drive. St. Marys, GA  
31558  
(912) 882-8626  
<http://smms.camden.k12.ga.us/>*

*Plan Revised: September 5, 2023*

### **What is Title I?**

St. Marys 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 the challenging state academic standards 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 parent and family engagement policy.



## **School Plan for Shared Student Achievement**

### **What is it?**

This is a plan that describes how St. Marys Middle School will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. St. Marys Middle School values the contributions and involvement 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 St. Marys Middle School will support family 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?**

St. Marys Middle School invited all parents to provide input in the Parent and Family Engagement Plan via E-blast, website, and Facebook. Parent input and comments regarding this plan were welcomed during the school year through an online form. 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 family engagement. Requested topics from the FY23 survey included helping with homework, test preparation, effective parenting for academic success, and understanding state academic standards. Parents and family members can also give feedback during parent meetings and activities during the school year. The school will submit any parent comments to the district if the Title I Schoolwide Plan is not satisfactory to parents.

### **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. St. Marys Middle School will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, of migratory children, and guardians of children served through the Methodist Children's Home.

### **Where is it available?**

The revised school plan will be posted on the school website. Parents can also access the plan in the Parent Resource Center and receive a copy by email.

### **2023-24 District Goals**

-To increase the percentage of students in grades 3-12 meeting proficient or higher on the GMAS ELA EOC/EOG from 53% to 56% (ES), from 52% to 55% (MS), and from 59% to 62% (HS).

-To increase the percentage of students in grades 3-12 meeting proficient or higher on the GMAS Math EOC/EOG from 59% to 62% (ES), from 47% to 50% (MS), from 50% to 53% (HS).

-To increase the percentage of students in grades 3-12 meeting proficient or higher on the GMAS Science EOC/EOG from 64% to 67% (ES), from 59% to 62% (MS), from 66% to 69% (HS).

### **2023-24 School Goals**

-To increase the ELA GMAS performance at the proficient or distinguished levels from 58% to 61% for FAY students.

-To increase the Math GMAS performance levels at the proficient or distinguished levels from 56% to 59% for FAY students.

-To increase the ELA and math performance levels for students with disabilities from 60% to 63% (ELA) and 70% to 73% (math).

## **School-Parent Compacts**

As part of this plan, St. Marys Middle School and our families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop that explains how parents, students, 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.

## **Let's Get Together!**

St. Marys Middle School 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.

### **Annual Title I Meeting: 12:30 PM, September 11, 2023**

We invite you to a meeting of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement plan, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' rights.

### **Walk in My Shoes: 5:00-6:00 PM, September 12, 2023**

Meet your child's teachers, learn about class content/standards/assessments as well as strategies on how to monitor your child's progress, help with homework, and improve reading and math skills.

### **FFA/Ag. Barn Open House & Fridge Notes: 3:30-5:30 PM, November 15, 2023**

A celebration of family engagement and the recognition of its impact on school and student success. Fridge notes filled with strategies & resources to help support learning at home will be shared.

### **Eighth Grade Parent Information/High School Registration: January/February 2024**

Parents of 8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join us to navigate the high school registration process.

### **High School Classes in Middle School Information Night: February 22, 2024**

Parents of 7<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join us for an overview of high school class offerings in middle school.

### **STEM Family Fair: 5:00-6:30 PM, March 26, 2024**

A STEM-filled event of learning and fun. EOG testing information and strategies on how to help at home will be available.

### **Month of the Military Child-Purple Up Day: April, 2024**

### **Fifth Grade Family Night: 5:30-6:30 PM, April 23 & April 25, 2024**

Parents of 5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to discuss the transition from elementary school to middle school.

### **School Council- Quarterly**

### **Title I Stakeholder Meeting: Spring, 2024**



## Parent Resource Center

Come visit the Parent Resource Center, located in the media center, to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child. Computers are available for parents to explore educational resources.

Monday-Friday, 6:55 AM-2:40 PM

## Parent and Family Engagement

St. Marys Middle School believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

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

## St. Marys Middle School is Branching Out!

St. Marys Middle will take the following measures to promote and support parents and family members as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will:

- ✓ Ensure that important information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- ✓ Provide trainings for staff on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement outside of the classroom.
- ✓ Partner with elementary school programs, high schools, college and career ready resources or organizations, parent resource centers, or other programs (as applicable) to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.
- ✓ Share information for parents/guardians to understand the school's academic standards and curriculum, assessments, individual student academic results and interpretation of those results 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 schoolwide events and activities, through e-blasts/email, phone messages, social media, and school website.
- ✓ Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between home and school, to provide information in an understandable format, and respond to parent requests for parent and family engagement activities.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents/guardians at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement. The school will schedule regular meetings when requested by parents.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents and family members at events and post feedback 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

St. Marys Middle School and our parents have adopted the National PTA 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

## Middle School Promotion Standards

- All students in grades 6 – 8 must have passing final grades of 70% or higher in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and ½ of connections classes.
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students must also pass the Reading AND Mathematics portions of the Georgia Milestones EOG.



St. Marys Middle School is committed to helping our parents/guardians and families attend the family activities listed in this policy. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs.

Dr. Angela B. McManigal  
(912) 882-8626

## 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.

Name: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_