

# Birney Elementary School

## *Family Involvement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success*

### 2021 – 2022 School Year

Birney Elementary School  
William C. Dills, Principal  
775 Smyrna-Powder Springs Road  
(678) 842-6824  
[www.cobbk12.org/birney](http://www.cobbk12.org/birney)

*Plan Revised August 13, 2021*

### What is Title I?

Birney Elementary is identified as a school having a School-wide Title I program as part of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support state and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards and 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 parental involvement.

All Title I schools must jointly develop with all parents a written parental involvement policy.



## School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

### What is it?

This is a plan that describes how Birney Elementary will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Birney will establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Birney Elementary 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?

Birney Elementary School invited all parents to attend our annual School Forum last spring to review and revise this parental involvement 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 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 online and send home with students to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parental involvement. Parents can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities during 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 Policy. Birney Elementary School will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, and of migratory children. In cases where the students reside in a Neglected and Delinquent residential facility, a representative from that facility can serve as a proxy for the parent(s).

### Where is it available?

The Family Engagement Policy will be distributed to all families during the Teacher-Parent conferences held October 19-22, 2021. The plan will be posted on the school website. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the front office and the parent resource room. New students and families will receive a copy of the policy upon registration.

### 2021 – 2022 District Goals

The Cobb County Board of Education set goals for the entire district.

- ❖ Increase student performance in all core content areas by 2% annually as measured by achievement data.
- ❖ CCSD will increase the participation rate of families and communities engaging in services/programs by 10% as measured by CTLS Parent data, survey results & web view module.
- ❖ By 2023, we will reorganize the PL framework to meet the needs of all schools to ensure alignment with Superintendent Priorities as measured by PL opportunities, surveys, and student achievement.
- ❖ By the end of 2025 school year every school will have identified practices and resources that support student success as measured by student academic, perception or discipline data.

### 2021 – 2022 School Goals

**ELA:** Our goal is for all students to read at proficient levels or above by May 2021.

- ❖ To increase the percentage of Kindergarten and First Grade students scoring 45 or higher on the Foundational Reading Assessment (FRA) by at least 10% at each grade level from August 2021 to May 2022.
- ❖ To increase the percentage of 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students scoring proficient or higher on the Reading Inventory (RI) by at least 10% at these grade levels from August 2021 to May 2022.

**Math:** The percent of students performing at proficient or higher on the Math Inventory will increase by at least 5% at each grade level from August 2020 to December 2020 and December 2020 to May 2021 assessments.

### School-Family Compacts

As part of this plan, Birney Elementary and our families will jointly develop a School-Family 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.

The School-Family Compacts are kept with each child's teacher if parents need a copy.



### Let's Get Together!

Birney Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong family involvement to support a partnership among the school, families, and the community to improve student academic achievement. All meetings for parents will be held in the morning or in the evening.



#### ❖ Sneak-a-Peak – July 29, 2021

Parents are invited to join us as we host an in person and a virtual Sneak-a-Peek and to meet their student's teachers

#### ❖ Building Staff Capacity – Sept. 8-15, 2021, Dec. 1-8, 2021, Feb. 2-9, 2022, Apr. 20-27, 2022

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school educates teachers, and other staff with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners.

#### ❖ Title I State of the School Meeting – September 16, 2021

We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our Family Involvement Policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-family compacts. This event will be hosted virtually and/or face to face.

#### ❖ Parent-Teacher Conferences – October 19-22, 2021 and upon request

Parents will have a chance to meet individually with their child's teacher (and support staff when applicable) to discuss student progress, upcoming curriculum and testing dates. Hosted virtually and/or face to face

#### ❖ Title I Fall School Improvement Opportunity – During Conferences Oct. 19-22, 2021

This event will be held Virtually and or face to face. Parents will be able to review and give input on all of our Title I Parent documents.

#### ❖ The Family Dinner Project – in conjunction with Literatura

The Family Dinner Project provides families with the opportunity to use the evening meal-time as a method to discuss your child's academics, express high learning expectations, teach the value of education, and discuss academic and future goals. Research indicates conversations around family dinners reduce high-risk student behaviors, positively increase student grades, increases student vocabulary, and improves student resiliency and self-esteem. Families will set meal-time goals each semester.

#### ❖ Literatura Bilingual Family Literacy Drive-Through Programs- October 14, 2021, Dec. 9, 2021, Mar. 10, 2022, and May 12, 2022

Learn standards-based grade level appropriate skills on how to make math, reading, and science fun at home and receive supporting resources. At this event, families will drive through and pick up supplies to complete activity at home. Tutorial on how to do it will be posted on our Birney Website. Families will be able to grab a meal and students will get a special treat as they drive by.

#### ❖ Title I Spring School Improvement Opportunity – March 2022

All parents are invited to review and give input on all our Title I Parent documents for the 2020-2021 school year. This event will be held Virtually and/or face to face

#### ❖ Transition into Kindergarten – April 2022

Preschool and daycare students will visit Birney for a school tour. They will also have lunch in the cafeteria.

#### ❖ Transition into Middle School Tour - May 2022

5<sup>th</sup> graders will participate in virtual visits to their planned middle school, meet staff and pick their electives.

\*\*\*Please check CTLS Parent and our school's website as well as our social media for updates and changes to events throughout the academic year\*\*\*

## Parent Resource Center

The Parent Resource Center located across from the main office to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child. Computers are available for families to explore the ParentVUE and educational resources.

Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

## Family Engagement

For LEAs that receive more than \$500,000 in Title 1, Part A funds and distributes a percentage of the 1% set-aside to Title 1 schools, parent input regarding the 1% set-aside for parent and family engagement. Birney 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.
- ❖ The carrying out of other activities as described in this plan.

Birney Elementary School is committed to helping our families attend the Family Engagement activities included in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs.

**Contact:** Lina Capellan-Genao, the Parent Facilitator at  
[Lina.Capellan-Genao@cobbk12.org](mailto:Lina.Capellan-Genao@cobbk12.org)  
Phone: (678) 842-6824

## Birney Elementary is Branching Out!

Birney 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:

- ❖ Employ a Parent Facilitator to promote home-school connections.
- ❖ Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish, and posted on the school website.
- ❖ Provide trainings for staff during their planning periods on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement.
- ❖ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, through CTLS Parent, phone 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 Communication Folders as a means of home-school communication.
- ❖ Use our school website, school social media and CTLS Parent to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parental involvement policy.
- ❖ Offer Literatura Curriculum Nights to provide an academic support with additional bilingual resources for our families to provide families with the tools to support students' academic success and mastery of standards.
- ❖ Monthly ESOL parent workshops are offered to provide support for ESOL parents.
- ❖ Offer a Multi-Cultural Night to allow families an opportunity to share their culture with the Birney families. Students will also be able to showcase dances and dress from different regions.
- ❖ Offer Family Dinner Project programs in conjunction with Literatura to support families in having regular meals together which is proven to support student success.
- ❖ Collect feedback from parents at all events and to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.





## Parental Involvement Standards

Birney Elementary 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

## School Community Team

Birney Elementary invites all families to join the School Community Team to share ideas and ways to involve other families to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. Families 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 School Community Team, please contact Lina Capellan-Genao, the Parent Facilitator at (678) 842-6824, [Lina.Capellan-Genao@cobbk12.org](mailto:Lina.Capellan-Genao@cobbk12.org) or

complete the interest form  
and leave it in the Main  
Office.



## School Community Team

- ☐ Yes, I am interested and wish to join the School Community Team
- ☐ Please contact me so I can learn more joining the School Community Team
- ☐ 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 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) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

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