

Chestatee Elementary School

Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Promoting Shared Student Success

Adapted from Georgia DOE

2024 – 2025

(Revised 10-1-24)



Chestatee Elementary School

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What is Title I?

Title I is a federally funded program that is intended to supplement the regular classroom curriculum. Students are provided extra assistance in reading and/or math. The program's goal is to support students so that every child meets and/or exceeds the state's standards. A variety of teaching methods and materials are used to reinforce curriculum concepts.

Chestatee Elementary is identified as schoolwide Title I as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). A school-wide Title I program ensures the success of all students. Everyone has access to the numerous resources and materials purchased with Title I funds, including books, flashcards, manipulatives, and learning games. Because of Title I, you and your child have access to excellent resources and enriching programs.

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it? This plan describes how Chestatee Elementary School (CHE) will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. The staff and parents at CHE are committed to providing a quality education for all our students. To achieve this goal, the teachers, and staff at CHE realize that a strong partnership between the school and home is essential. We encourage our parents and community to actively participate in the education of CHE students. This plan is written in an understandable format and in a language that all parents can understand. The plan is updated annually to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

How is it developed? Chestatee Elementary's Parent and Family Engagement Policy is jointly developed by providing all stakeholders with multiple opportunities for input. Parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for the upcoming school year. Stakeholders and parents have the opportunity to provide feedback continuously throughout the school year through surveys available at school events, virtual events, through our website, and newsletters. This information is used to revise the plan for the upcoming school year. We distribute surveys to ask parents for their input, feedback, and suggestions on the plan and the use of Title 1 funds for family involvement. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view throughout the year, and it is available in our front office.

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. Chestatee Elementary provides complete opportunities for the participation of families with limited English, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available? At Open House, the plan is distributed to all families. The plan is posted on the Chestatee Elementary website. Parents can retrieve a paper copy of the plan in the Family Resource Room or the Information Station at the front of the school.

Chestatee Elementary is committed to helping our families attend the activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare, transportation, or translation in order to participate in our programs. We are available to help with any of those needs. Contact: Meg Killingsworth 770-887-2341 ext. 723002 or email mkillingsworth@forsyth.k12.ga.us.

2024-25 Title I Goals

District Goals:

During the 2024-2025 school year, Forsyth County Schools will increase the achievement score within the Closing Gaps component of the CCRPI by meeting the 3% target established in the baseline school year for each grade level band.

During the 2024-2025 school year, 12% of the schools in FCS will increase their school climate rating and 48% will maintain 5 stars.

School Goals:

MATH GOAL: Chestatee will improve student achievement in mathematics as measured by the Georgia Milestone assessment in grades 3rd-5th and the FCS Big 20 in grades K-5. The percentage of 3rd-5th students scoring at the proficient level or above on the math GMA will increase from **51%** (spring 2023) to **56%** (spring 2025) and the percentage of K-5 students demonstrating grade level math proficiency on the FCS Big 10/20 will be 56% or higher by May 2025.

READING GOAL: Chestatee will improve student achievement in ELA/Reading as measured by the Georgia Milestone Assessment in grades 3rd-5th and the i-Ready Diagnostic in grades K-5. The percentage of 3rd-5th students scoring at the proficient level or above on the ELA/GMA will increase from **40%** (Spring 2023) to **50%** (Spring 2025) and the percentage of K-5 students reading grade level text or higher with basic comprehension proficiency will be 50% or higher as measured by the i-Ready Diagnostic by May 2025.

Relationships Matter!

Chestatee Elementary values the contributions of our parents. We are committed to collaborating with parents to support students by continually building staff capacity for engaging with families. By providing tailored professional development sessions, informative newsletters, and regular emails we will work to strengthen the connection between home and school. This professional learning will help teachers understand the significance of parental involvement, offer insights into fostering effective communication channels, and highlight strategies for developing equitable partnerships with parents to improve student outcomes. Moreover, we will organize and execute various parent programs aimed at fostering family engagement. These initiatives will serve to help the collaborative efforts between the school, parents, and the broader community, thereby improving academic outcomes for our students. Additionally, we will provide information in a format and language that aids parents' understanding to the extent that is practicable. Furthermore, our staff is committed to promptly addressing requests for parent and family engagement activities, as we recognize the pivotal role such initiatives play in ensuring the success of every student. If a parent requests a meeting, we will work to meet this request within a reasonable amount of time. We will work together to meet the needs of students.

Academic family engagement nights will be held at least three times a year for kindergarten through fifth-grade students and their families to build home/school partnerships and improve student academic achievement. The school will provide parents with a description and explanation of the school's curriculum. Parents will also receive a description and explanation of assessments used to measure student progress and proficiency levels the students are expected to meet. Parents will be provided with individual student academic assessment results and help to interpret those results.

At our school's Annual Title I Parent Meeting, held in September of each year, parents are informed about the requirements and our school's participation in Title I as well as the parent's rights under Title I and copyright piracy laws. Parent events will be available in multiple formats (both in person and virtual) and at various times. Parent meetings will be held during the school day and evening hours. Parents will be invited via paper invitation, messengers, e-mail, newsletters, and social media, and invitations will be sent in a timely manner to provide families with ample planning time to attend. We will provide translation services, childcare, and other reasonable support as needed.

Chestatee houses two special needs preschool classes on campus to aid in transitioning to kindergarten. Pre-K families, as well as all incoming families, are invited to attend all Title I and Family Engagement Events and are provided with access to all parent resource materials. Transition activities will be provided for rising kindergarten and rising fifth graders going to middle school as well to assist students with successful transitions.

The Title I School Improvement Plan is written in a clear format and language that parents can understand. Parents can review the Title I Schoolwide Plan through the school website or by contacting Meg Killingsworth at mkillingsworth@forsyth.k12.ga.us or calling 770-887-2341 ext. 723002. If the Title I School Improvement Plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, parents will be given the chance to submit comments on the plan. Chestatee will submit the comments to the county via email or hard copy. Parents will also have access to the formal complaint procedure found on the Chestatee webpage. Parents, students, staff, private schools, and the general public have the right to file a written complaint regarding the Title I Program or Plan with the district if no resolution is determined with local school staff and/ or administrators first.

School – Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Chestatee Elementary and our families have jointly developed a school-parent-student compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students develop that explains how parents, students, and teachers work together to make sure all students reach grade-level standards. The compacts are given to parents at the beginning of each school year in order to review throughout the year. The compacts are reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers during the parent feedback meetings and through online surveys.

Opportunities for Family Feedback

The school will provide all families with the opportunity for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate in decision-making regarding their child's education. All parents are also given the opportunity to provide valuable feedback through a variety of means including parent surveys, comments from Title I Family Events, and emailing the Family Engagement Coordinator mkillingsworth@forsyth.k12.ga.us.

Opportunities for Family Engagement

- ❖ **Open House: July 30, 2024**
- ❖ **Academic Parent Teacher Teams #1/ Curriculum Night:**
 - **September 5, 2024 (K-2) and September 10, 2024 (3-5)**
- ❖ **Annual Title I Meeting: September 16, 2024 in Multipurpose room**
- ❖ **Parent-Teacher Conferences: October 18, 2024**
- ❖ **Academic Parent Teacher Teams #2: January 16, 2025 Virtual (K-5)**
- ❖ **Parent-Teacher Conferences: March 14, 2025**
- ❖ **Title I Parent Input Meeting: April (in Family Resource Room and Virtual)**
- ❖ **Academic Parent Teacher Teams #3: May 1, 2025 Virtual (K-5)**
- ❖

Family Involvement

All families are welcome at Chestatee Elementary. Family involvement means the participation of parents and other family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities to ensure:

- Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making.
- **Parents have an open invitation to our Parent Advisory Council which meets 4 times a year. This council gives feedback and helps with decision-making.**
- The implementation of other activities as described in this plan.
- Forsyth County Schools reserves 1% of the total amount of Title I funds received in FY24, and Chestatee Elementary receives a portion of that is set aside to carry out the family involvement requirements listed in this policy. Throughout the year, parents may complete surveys and give feedback as to how this Family Engagement Set Aside is spent. If you would like to give feedback in person or have any questions, please contact Meg Killingsworth, at 770-887-2341 ext. 723002 or mkillingsworth@forsyth.k12.ga.us.

Opportunities for Family Consultation

The school will provide all families with the opportunity for regular meetings to provide assistance with training and materials to help parents understand such topics as: The Georgia Standards of Excellence, The Georgia Milestone Assessments, Title I, Part A requirements, strategies parents can use to improve their child's academic progress, how to partner with teachers for academic achievement, the dangers of copyright piracy, and how to foster family engagement in collaboration with teachers.