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## **SMS Parent Engagement Plan**

The Swainsboro Middle School community recognizes the importance of parent involvement to reach individual student goals for success. We recognize that parents are their children's primary teachers and their support is critical in our efforts to provide a quality education to the children at Swainsboro Middle School. In our efforts to improve student achievement, Swainsboro Middle School has established objectives and will implement strategies to increase parent and community involvement within our school. Included in our parental involvement correspondence and activities are Herrington Homestead Residential Facilities and Community in Schools.

Our parent involvement meetings are designed to provide parents with resources and materials that they may need in order to become more effective and actively involved in their children's education. We will continue to provide our parents and community with various forms of communication, including parent/student handbooks, newsletters, flyers, parent conferences, Kininvolved messages, phone calls, emails, etc.

Formal evening meetings will be conducted yearly to include parents in the planning process for the school program and revision of the SMS School-Parent Compact. In addition, an initial meeting will inform parents of the school's Title I Plan, its requirements, and their right to be involved in the program. Parent conference days will be conducted throughout the school term to inform parents of their student's progress and the plan for interventions when needed. Swainsboro Middle School will assist parents in understanding of the state's academic content standards. Information on state and local assessments used to measure student progress and the proficiency levels the students are expected to meet is shared with parents. Title I funds will be provided for transportation, childcare, and home visits as needed.

The school community will include a Parent Resource Center, strategically located at Swainsboro High School, to facilitate parent and community involvement in the school program. The Parent Resource Center will also provide parents with information, materials, resources, and

training in order to help their children with their academic success. Literacy and technology training will be provided, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement and increased student achievement. Through regular meetings, the center will provide the opportunity to volunteer and participate in the decision-making process by offering suggestions and receiving timely feedback to their suggestions.

Trainings will be conducted as needed to train parents in ways they can contribute to their child's progress. Efforts will be made to provide supportive and effective learning environments by collaborating with the ESOL Department and other pertinent departments to facilitate the translation of pertinent information for parents whose primary language is not English. Parents and students with disabilities will also be accommodated with the collaboration of the Special Education Department at the school and county levels. An annual survey will be sent to parents to gather their input. The data will be collected and submitted including all unsatisfactory comments regarding the school's plan to the LEA.

Swainsboro Middle School will implement and coordinate parents' programs in order to build ties between home and school. To assist in building the ties between home and school, parents will be offered the opportunity to assist in the professional development of teachers and school staff. In addition, formal compacts between parents, school community, and students will be employed to specify everyone's role in reaching individual students' goals. Parent-teacher conferences will be held at least annually to relate individual student's achievement to compact. Parents will be informed of their student's academic progress every 4 1/2 weeks, and a formal report card will be sent home every nine weeks.