

Annual Title I Parent Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Meeting Time: 4:30 PM

1. Meeting Called to Order

- Welcome and Introductions
By: Principal Shawanna Arnold at 4:30 PM.

2. What is a Title I school?

- *By:* Principal Shawanna Arnold
- *Items/Information Shared:* Ms. Arnold described what it means to be a Title I school and informed parents about the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Gullatt Elementary is a 100% free lunch school which mandates us to have a schoolwide Title I program.

3. How does our school spend Title I money? How is Title I Parent and Family Engagement money spent?

- *By:* Principal Shawanna Arnold
- *Items/Information Shared:* Title I gives us a budget of approximately \$300,000; these funds are spent to reduce the number of students in each classroom; allows us to pay to have reading and math coaches to support teachers and students; we are able to purchase resources and materials for students, parents, and teachers; and purchase a full time Parent Liaison this school year.

4. How does our school participate in the Title I Program?

- *By:* Principal Shawanna Arnold
- *Items/Information Shared:* Gullatt participates in the Title I program by providing additional academic support to help students master content and standards. Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are also utilized to allow for collaboration among teachers.

5. What are our school's Title I (schoolwide or targeted assistance) requirements?

- *By:* Principal Shawanna Arnold
- *Items/Information Shared:* Each of our PLCs will implement 100% of the collaboration target and monitoring form by December 2020. We are also required as a Title I school to develop and implement a Parent and Family Engagement Plan and School-Family Compact with the input from parents, students, and staff; we are required to host monthly parent and family engagement activities and workshops and provide supplemental resources for our families.

6. Schoolwide Program – Past and Present

- *By:* Principal Shawanna Arnold
- *Items/Information Shared:* Some of our goals from 2018 focused on improving attendance rates for both students and staff; lowering the suspension rate to 40% or lower; increasing parent engagement via PTA and fundraisers; and increasing GMAS proficiency levels in ELA and math. Current goals still focus on increasing GMAS proficiency rates for 3rd-5th grade students by 4% in ELA and 3% in math by May 2020. Some of the programs/supports in place to help our students are Launchpad, Iread, Iready which is an adaptive software which tells us where students are academically; we also use Reading Units of Study (RUoS); K-3 teachers also participate in Growing Readers program designed to support teachers in reading; teachers also use Running Records, Numeracy Framework PBIS rewards, Social-Emotional

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responsive environments, and Resilience in School Environments (RISE UP) classrooms. We are also enhancing classroom leveled libraries that are organized by genres. We also implement a schoolwide PBIS rewards program (parents can sign up to use the app). We also have a full time TAG teacher now and no longer must share her with other schools. Other special programs provided are two Prekindergarten classrooms, Early Intervention program (EIP), two English for Speakers of Other Language (ESOL) teachers, and Services for Exceptional Children. The state's CCRPI grade report for our school from 2018 is 68.9; the report for 2019 has not come out yet.

7. What curriculum does our school use?

- *By:* Principal Shawanna Arnold
- *Items/Information Shared:* Standards Mastery Framework is the curriculum used by Fulton County Schools. We also use Balanced Assessment Systems (BAS) which uses a variety of assessments; Literacy and Mathematics Framework as a gradual and release model; and McGraw Hill for science.

8. What tests will my child be taking? (Include WIDA and Alternate Assessments)

- *By:* Principal Shawanna Arnold
- *Items/Information Shared:* A path for College and Career Readiness includes standards, grading, assessments such as Fastbridge which is used as a screener/progress monitoring tool for reading, math, and behaviors; unit assessments, interim assessments, Iready for reading and math include, sight word tests, phonics assessments, formative assessments, quizzes, and Georgia Milestones assessment for grades 3-5; students in 3rd grade must pass the reading portion of the GMAS; and students in 5th grade must pass both reading and math in order to move on to the next grade. Principal Arnold explained that parents can utilize Infinite Campus to access student's academic, attendance, discipline, and other information. Principal Arnold and Assistant Principal Bentley assisted parents with gaining access to Infinite Campus by resending the Parent Link that was initially sent out over the summer.

9. What is required by law for Parent and Family Engagement?

- *By:* Principal Shawanna Arnold
- *Items/Information Shared:* The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) required all Title I schools to jointly develop, with parents and family members, and written parent and family engagement plan. The district's plan outlines expectations, strategies, and resources available to assist parents in supporting the education of their children; it provides supplemental funding to local schools and requires these funds be used to implement family engagement programs. Gullatt Elementary is required using parent input to also jointly develop a parent and family engagement plan that describes how we will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. The School-Family Compact is our school's written commitment that details how teachers, students, and parents will share the responsibility for student learning; the compact bridges the connection between school and home.

10. Does my child's teacher meet professional qualifications?

- *By:* Principal Shawanna Arnold
- *Items/Information Shared:* Parents have the right to know whether their child's teacher is highly qualified. In the event the teacher is not highly qualified, parents will receive written notification.

11. What opportunities does the school provide for parent engagement?

- *By:* Principal Shawanna Arnold
- *Items/Information Shared:* There are many opportunities for parents and families to get involved. Parent-Teacher conferences are held quarterly. Principal Arnold reiterated the use of Infinite Campus to stay in

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the know on what is going on in the classroom. Some of our teachers, parents and community members are members of our School Governance Council, which runs like a board in a corporation or company. Parents can elect to run for PTA offices which will take place immediately following this meeting. Principal sits down in an informal meeting with parents during quarterly Chat and Chew discussions. We have volunteer registration programs, family luncheons, monthly parent and family engagement workshops, and Title I Input Meetings for all stakeholders.

12. How responsive will the school be to my questions when staff is contacted?

- *By:* Principal Shawanna Arnold
- *Items/Information Shared:* We operate on an Open-Door policy. Our staff uses a variety of communication methods to keep in contact with parents such as PBIS rewards, Seesaw, Remind, Google phone numbers, email, Parent Connection Letters 3 x month, Blackboard Parent Notification system, monthly newsletters, Class Dojo, text. Principal Arnold introduced some of her administration team members and explained each member's role and provided email and phone contact information.

13. Closing, Evaluations, and Remarks-(10 Minutes)

- *By:* Principal Shawanna Arnold
- *Items/Information Shared:* Principal Arnold closed the meeting by asking if anyone had any questions or concerns and reminded parents that feedback and questions are welcome throughout the school year. Parents were asked to complete the evaluation form to provide us feedback on how we can improve these meetings in the future. Meeting was adjourned.