What is it? This is a plan that describes how Guyton Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Guyton Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents in order to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Guyton Elementary will support parent 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? Guyton Elementary School invited all parents to attend our End-of-the-Year parent input meeting last spring. During this meeting, parents had the opportunity to review and revise the parental involvement policy, our school-parent compact, and the 1% parental involvement budget. Parents can provide input and feedback regarding those documents throughout the school year. The plan, school-compact, and feedback forms are posted on our school website. We also have the forms available in our front office, and in the Parent Resource Center. We send home surveys twice a year to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parental involvement. Parents can also give feedback during meetings and activities during the school year. This plan is updated annually to meet the changing needs of student and 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. Guyton Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available? A copy of the plan is sent home with all students before November 1, 2016. It is posted on the school website and copies are maintained in the front office as well as the Instructional Supervisor Office. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Center.

Guyton Elementary is committed to helping our parents attend the parent activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us with input on any of the activities listed in this document or to submit ideas about how we can better work together for the academic success of all children!

Felicia Hills, Parent Liaison
(912) 772-3384 ext. 2359
fhills@effingham.k12.ga.us
**Our Mission** . . . As a community of learners, in cooperation with stakeholders, our mission is to provide rigorous and relevant instruction in a safe environment to enable all students to obtain a high school diploma as a foundation for post secondary success.

**Our Purpose** . . . “Every day, I will do my best, treat everyone with respect, and make smart choices that will lead me to success.”

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**GES Goals**

GES will improve student achievement in Language Arts during the 2016 – 2017 school year by increasing the number of students performing at or above grade level on End of Grade Assessments in reading and math by 3%.

**District Goals**

The school district’s goal is to equip students to compete in our global society as evidenced by ranking in the top 15% of districts in the state of Georgia as measured by the CCRPI score.

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**Guyton Elementary Wants YOU!**

Guyton Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parental involvement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement:

- **Open House – August 2, 2016**
  - Meet your child’s teacher and our friendly and helpful school staff for the year

- **Annual Title I Parent Meeting**
  - Come and join us on September 9, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. as we look at the Title I program at GES and share information regarding our school-parent compacts, parental involvement policy and the curriculum in use at the school. Parents will also be informed on their rights to be involved in our Title I program.

- **Gator Student Performance Meetings**
  - Each performance will spotlight two grade levels and a brief informational meeting prior to the performance on the following dates: Sept 22, 2015 (4th & 5th) November 17, 2016 (2nd & 3rd) March 9, 2017 (K & 1st) and May 11, 2017 (PreK).

- **Parent-Teacher and Student Conferences** – October 6, 2016 & February 9, 2017
  - Scheduled updates on your child’s progress

- **Family Nights**
  - Two Family Nights for ALL grade levels – November 17, 2016 and March 9, 2017 – event will focus on reading and math; students and parents will receive materials and training on how to help improve achievement; parents will receive description and explanation of assessments and the proficiency levels the students are expected to meet.

- **School Council**
  - Parents can serve on the School Council. ALL parents are welcome and encouraged to attend these meetings on the following dates: September 22, 2016, December 1, 2017, February 23, 2017, and May 4, 2017. All meetings are held GES at 2:00 p.m.

- **Kindergarten Here We Come!**
  - Come and learn how your child can make a successful transition from Pre-K to Kindergarten; May 11, 2017

- **Title I Parent Involvement Meeting**
  - We will also meet again in the spring to review how funds were spent this school year as well as to refine both the Home-School Compact and the Parent Involvement Plan.
Let’s Work Together!

Guyton 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:

- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and other necessary languages, and posted on the school website and included in the monthly school newsletter for all parents.
- Conduct staff development as needed on parent involvement practices and effective strategies for staff to communicate and build partnerships with parents.
- Educate our staff on the importance of parental involvement; how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners.
- Partner with Head Start and other Pre-K programs to share school information about parent engagement activities that will help prepare parents and their child for kindergarten and improve school transition.
- Share information in English and other necessary languages in the school newsletter for parents to understand the school’s academic standards and assessments 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, such as phone messages, school website, and flyers.
- Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations and respond to their requests for parental involvement activities.
- Provide childcare during family nights, assist parents with transportation, if needed, and provide necessary materials for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child’s achievement.
- Collaborate with community leaders and business groups to increase participation and awareness of the school parental involvement plan and activities.
- Listen and respond to parents’ requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.
- Help each child develop self-discipline. The home and school share the responsibility for developing good citizens. Parents, teachers, and students must work together to maintain a safe learning environment.
- Conduct parent-teacher conferences twice per school year or whenever needed and provide frequent reports to parents on their child’s progress.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Guyton Elementary and our families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop together 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 during the spring Parent Meeting. The school will provide parents with a copy of the compact to reference throughout the school year and the copies with the signatures will be kept on file at the school.

PBIS

The Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports program is based upon a philosophy of recognizing positive contributions of students. Our goal is to help each child develop self discipline. The home and school share the responsibility for developing good citizens. Parents, teachers, and students must work together to maintain a safe learning environment.

As a part of PBIS, teachers, administrators, counselors, and support staff will have the responsibility to TEACH positive behavior expectations to students. PBIS means that students will now exactly what is expected of them. Students who take responsibility to behave positively will be recognized and rewarded in a variety of ways. Students will also know the consequences that will result when they chose not to meet the school wide expectations. They will receive ongoing instruction from staff to ensure that they are safe, respectful, and responsible.
**Parental Involvement**
Guyton Elementary believes that parent 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.

**Reservation of Funds**
We welcome and encourage parent input and provide a variety of opportunities for parents to give feedback. At GES we offer parents the opportunity to give suggestions on how this money should be used. Parents are given the opportunity at the Parent Input Meeting to provide input towards the 1% set-aside that is allotted for parental involvement activities.

Parents can also provide feedback through surveys that are sent home with students twice per school year; parents can access forms from our school website; parents can email their suggestions to the Parent Liaison; parents have the opportunity to provide input/suggestions anytime throughout the school year; feedback forms can be retrieved from our Parent Resource Center.

**School Council**
Guyton Elementary wants to invite all parents to attend the school council meetings. During these meetings, parents will have the opportunity to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with the school, families and the community. The team will meet four times during the school year, but parents can also submit their ideas or suggestions during school activities and meetings, as well as through our parent surveys sent home with students. If you would like to know more about the School Council, please contact the principal at (912) 772 – 3384.

**Parent Resource Center**
Our Parent Resource Center is a family friendly school based center that provides support, information and academic materials for parents to check out and use with their children at home. By offering these resources, our center enables families to help their children reach their fullest potential. The center is located in the media center and is open during school hours. For more info regarding resources, contact Felicia Hills.
Share Your Thoughts

We welcome your input and would like 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 or return it to our Parent Liaison, Felicia Hills at GES.

Name: (optional) ___________________________   Telephone Number: (optional) ___________________________

Comments: ___________________________________________________________________________________________

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Guyton Elementary School
FY 2016 – 2017