NEWTON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
TITLE I PARENT AND STUDENT HANDBOOK

Middle Ridge Elementary School

2021-2022
Ms. Rhonda Battle, Principal
School-Parent Compact  
*Middle Ridge Elementary School*  
*2021-2022*  
*Revised July 30, 2021*

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Middle Ridge Elementary students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families, agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement as well as describes how the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the challenging state academic standards. Please review the attached School-Parent Compact.

Please sign and date below to acknowledge that you have read, received, and agree to this School-Parent Compact. Once signed, please return the form to your child’s teacher and keep the School-Parent Compact as a reminder of your commitment. The School-Parent Compact will be discussed with you throughout the year at different school-family events as we work together to help your child succeed in school. We look forward to our school-parent partnership!

Sincerely,

*[Rhonda Battle]*  
Principal

Teachers Signature: ___________________________ Date: ________________

Parent/Guardian Signature: ___________________________ Date: ________________

Student Signature: ___________________________ Date: ________________
School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What it is?
This is a plan that describes how Middle Ridge Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Middle Ridge Elementary teachers, staff, and administration value the contributions and involvement of parents to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Middle Ridge Elementary will support parents’ engagement throughout the school year. It also details how parents’ feedback is utilized to plan activities and events to promote student learning at home and school.

How is it developed?
Middle Ridge invited all parents to attend our annual Title I Revision and Development Stakeholders Input feedback meeting to review and revise our parent and family engagement policy, as well as the school-wide Title I plan, our school-parent compact, ways to build staff capacity, the parental involvement budget, the district’s parent and family engagement policy, and the CLIP. Additionally, parents can provide input and comments regarding this plan during the school year through parent meetings, and through our Principal talks offered quarterly. The plan is posted on our school’s website to view and provide input; parents are encouraged to provide feedback during the school year. Parents are also asked to participate in an annual online survey to provide suggestions on the policy. All feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year.

Who is it for?
All Middle Ridge Elementary students participate in the School-Wide Title I, Part A Program, and their families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities listed in this plan. Middle Ridge will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available?
At the beginning of the school year, the plan is sent home with all Middle Ridge Elementary parents and students as part of the Title I Packet. Parents can also access a copy of the plan in the front office, on the school website, or in the Parent Resource Center.
Newton County Schools Goals

The mission of Newton County Schools is to provide educational excellence to all students. To accomplish this mission, two goals have been set.

**Goal: Increased Student Achievement**

Middle Ridge Elementary Goals:

Teachers will design lessons that focus on student-centered instruction. This design will increase:

**Reading:** Increase reading proficiency by 3% during the 2021-2022 school year as measured by authentic literacy common assessments.
- K-2 decoding skills
- 3-5 decoding skills and comprehension

**Math:** Increase math proficiency by 3% during the 2021-2022 school year as measured by authentic math common assessments.
- K-5 number sense

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Middle Ridge Elementary and our families will develop a school-parent compact. This is an agreement developed by parents, teachers, and students to have a plan in place to work together throughout the school year. The goal is to ensure all students reach grade-level standards. The compact will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers during the Parent Feedback Meeting at the end of each school year. Compacts will be sent home at the beginning of each year.

Parent Engagement Program and Activities

Middle Ridge 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. Meetings for parents will be held in the evening beginning at 6:00 p.m. However, additional meetings may be offered based on parents’ needs and feedback at varying times.

*Please contact: Ms. Rhonda Battle, Principal*

770-385-6463

battle.rhonda@newton.k12.ga.us

- **Title I Annual Parent Orientation Meeting August 12, 2021:** Parents will develop an understanding of the Title I program, Title I Funding, and Title I Parent Involvement Activities. The *Elementary and Secondary Education Assistance Act*, the Title I Parent Involvement Policy, and School-Parent Compact will be addressed.

- **Parent-Teacher Conferences September 10, 2021:** Families and teachers will have the opportunity to discuss students’ progress as well as address the School-Parent Compact.

- **Family Literacy Night October 21, 2021:** Families will participate in interactive activities to learn comprehension strategies that support reading development. ELA, Science, and Social Studies teachers will model strategies that parents can use at home to support academic success. A variety of resources will be shared with families.

- **Family Math Night February 17, 2022:** Teachers will model math strategies with hands-on activities that parents can use at home to increase student achievement. Each grade level will focus on first semester math concepts that align with the curriculum standards.

- **Parent-Teacher Conferences February 4, 2022:** Families and Teachers will have the opportunity to discuss students’ progress as well as address the School-Parent Compact and Parent Policy.

- **Annual Title I Stakeholders’ Input Meeting March 10, 2022:** Parents will review and provide feedback to revise the School & District Parent Family and Engagement Policies, the Title I School-wide Plan, School-Parent Compact, Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP), ways to build staff capacity, and 1% Parent Budget Allocation

Snack and Learn Parent Workshops 2021-2022 MRE staff will model strategies to help support parents and family members with homework in all content areas. These workshops will be offered throughout the school year.
**Parent Engagement Funds**

Did you know that each LEA that receives more than $500,000 in Title I, Part A funds, shall reserve at least one percent of its allocation to assist schools to carry out the parental engagement activities? Attend our Annual Title I Stakeholder’s Input Meeting to give your input on how we can use our funds to provide you with the tools, resources and strategies to help your child reach academic success.

**Annual Title I Stakeholders’ Input Meeting**

**March 10, 2022**

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**Middle Ridge Mustangs are on the Charge!**

*Middle Ridge Elementary believes true parent involvement is daily parental participation through meaningful communication involving student academic learning and school activities.*

- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education.
- Parents play an important role in facilitating their child’s learning.
- Parents show the initiative to be a full partner in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision making, and able to be engaged in advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.
- The fulfillments of other activities are described in this plan.

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**Middle Ridge Elementary will work to ensure that the following measures are coordinated to promote and support all parents as a fundamental source of strength for our school to reach our school goals. We will:**

- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, conferences, meetings, and other activities are posted on the school’s marquee, the school’s website, Twitter, Facebook, and School Messenger. Newsletters, invitations, and reminder letters will be provided to parents in English and Spanish.
- Offer parent classes/workshops throughout the school year. Classes/workshops will provide parents with valuable information on the Title I Program, understanding the state standards, working with their child’s teacher, working with their child to improve academic progress and understand grade level assessments. Materials and informational handouts will be offered during these classes and will be available on the school’s website.
- Offer parent workshops which focus on literacy, mathematics, the harms of copyright piracy, and computer classes to enhance employability skills.
- Provide quarterly trainings and activities for staff development on parent and family engagement practices to work with parents as equal partners.
- Coordinate with Bright from the Start (Pre-K program) to share information about activities that will help prepare parents and students for kindergarten. Also, there will be scheduled school tours and planned activities for parents and local Head Start Programs.
- Provide a parent resource center where parents can check out materials and resources to assist with learning at home.
- Collect feedback from parents at all events, place input cards around the building, and post suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents’ requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.

**Middle Ridge is committed to helping parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs.**

📞 770-385-6463
✉️ battle.rhonda@newton.k12.ga.us
Parent Resource Center
Located across from the main office

Stop by our parent resource center to check out a variety of books on parenting skills, have access to a computer to check Infinite Campus or use the internet to research parent resources, or take home math FROG Publications games for family fun night. You can also get a copy of the Parent Involvement Policy, Title I Plan, or assorted pamphlets on various helpful topics.

Continuous Communication

All informed, engaged, and supportive family plays an instrumental role in a student’s academic success. The Newton County School System supports families in partnerships with schools, district, and the community in the quest of achieving academic success for all students. Here are some ways that we provide continuous communication with our parents to ensure that learning is continued beyond the school day.

* Parent Connect Canvas Page
* School Messenger
* Flyers
* Teachers’ Canvas Pages
* School Website
* Twitter

Measures of Effectiveness

Parent Meeting Evaluation: to gather feedback from the parents to evaluate the effectiveness of the meeting and to gain insight on parent academic support for future meetings.

Parent Survey Data: to gain insight on MRE’s effectiveness in meeting the needs of parents in various areas such as technology, parent workshop topics, and school climate so that we can create an environment that meets the needs of all parents and families.

Revision and Development Stakeholders Meeting: to give all stakeholders the opportunity to give input to build the effectiveness on the:

- Parent and Family Engagement Policy-School and District
- School-Parent Compact
- Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP)
- Title I School wide Plan
- Build Staff Capacity
- Parent Involvement 1% Funding

Student Outcomes: to access if strategies and activities, as outlined on the school-parent compacts are effectively impacting student achievement.

Multiple Opportunities for Input: Middle Ridge Elementary School will provide several opportunities for parents and families to give input on the effectiveness of the Title I Program. Parents can access our Title I School wide Plan, The Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and the School-Parent Compact on our school’s website. These documents are also located in our parent resource room.

Onewton: Committed Partnerships

Middle Ridge Elementary School understands the value parents contribute to our school and community. In an effort to encourage more parents to be a part of our Onewton program, staff will participate in professional development to learn ways to reach out to families and offer support in areas of need. We know working with parents to build a strong partnership between home and school is vital to student academic achievement!

Parental support results in students who:

- Achieve higher academically
- Maintain better attendance rates
- Develop essential social skills necessary for cooperative learning
- Graduate and go on to further their education
Mighty Mustang Team

Middle Ridge Elementary invites all parents to join the Mighty Mustang Team. The Mighty Mustang Team shares ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with the school, families, and the community. The team will meet during the school year, but parents can also submit ideas or suggestions at school activities and meetings, as well as through parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the Mighty Mustang Team, please contact Ms. Rhonda Battle, Principal at 770-385-6463.

Parent Comments and Suggestions

We want to hear from you! If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of the school wide program plan that you feel needs to be adjusted, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the office.

Name: (optional)___________________________________________________

Telephone Number (optional)_________________________________________

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- Link to goals of the school improvement plan
- Focus on students’ learning
- Describes how teachers will communicate with parents
- Describes opportunities for parents to volunteer

Activities to Build Partnerships

Parents are encouraged to volunteer during the school year:
* Annual Title I Parent and Family Orientation Meeting & Curriculum Night August 12, 2021
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  September 10, 2021
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Jointly Developed

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Parents are welcome to contribute comments at anytime.

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Communications About Student Learning

Middle Ridge Elementary is committed to maintaining parent partnerships in our students’ learning. Some of the ways teachers contact parents are:
- Thursday Folders
- Agendas/Calendars
- School’s Website
- Parent-teacher conferences in October and February
- Newsletters and flyers
- Phone calls or notes from the teacher
- Infinite Campus/Progress Reports

Contact MRE for volunteering and observation opportunities.
Our Goals for Student Achievement

**District’s Goal:** Increased Student Achievement

Middle Ridge administrators and teachers have studied students’ performance data to decide the most important areas of improvement for our school.

**Teachers will design lessons that focus on student-centered instruction.**

**Reading:**
Increase reading proficiency by 3% during the 2021-2022 school year as measured by authentic literacy common assessments.
- K-2 Decoding Skills
- 3-5 Decoding Skills & Comprehension

**Math:**
Increase math proficiency by 3% during the 2021-2022 school year as measured by authentic math common assessments.
- Number sense

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**Teachers, Students, and Parents—Together for Success**

**Teachers/Schools will...**

Middle Ridge teachers, staff, and administrators will work with students and their families to support students’ success in literacy and math. Some of our key connections with families will be:

- Provide parents with math and literacy games through a parent resource center that is accessible daily, during parent and family workshops, parent conferences, and the after school program.
- Offer family fun nights where teachers will model strategies, including using technology, to provide hands-on activities during parent workshops to build parents’ knowledge in literacy and mathematics.
- Use MyLaunchpad to gain single access to interactive online games, eBooks, and other interactive websites to build basic literacy and math skills to use at home.

**Families will...**

Middle Ridge parents work with staff to develop ideas about how families can support students’ success in reading and math. Families may have other ideas to add to the list. Here are a few strategies and activities:

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School-Parent Compact
1st Grade
2021-2022
Revised July 30, 2021

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What is a School-Parent Compact

A School-Parent Compact for Achievement is an agreement that parents, students, and teachers develop together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards.

Effective Compacts:
- Link to goals of the school improvement plan
- Focus on students’ learning
- Describes how teachers will communicate with parents
- Describes opportunities for parents to volunteer

Activities to Build Partnerships

Parents are encouraged to volunteer during the school year:

- Annual Title I Parent and Family Orientation Meeting & Curriculum Night August 12, 2021
- Literacy Night October 21, 2021
- Math Night February 17, 2022
- Revision & Development Meeting March 10, 2022
- Parent Teacher Conferences
  - September 10, 2021
  - February 4, 2022

Jointly Developed

Parents, students, and staff of Middle Ridge developed this School-Parent Compact for achievement. Teachers discussed with students what would help them learn and generated a list of ideas, parents added to the ideas to pinpoint areas of most concern. Meetings are held each year to review the ideas on the compact and make changes based on the needs of parents and students.

Parents are welcome to contribute comments at anytime.

Please contact Ms. Battle 770-385-6463

Communications About Student Learning

Middle Ridge Elementary is committed to maintaining parent partnerships in our students’ learning. Some of the ways teachers contact parents are:
- Thursday Folders
- Agendas/Calendars
- School’s Website
- Parent-teacher conferences in October and February
- Newsletters and flyers
- Phone calls or notes from the teacher
- Infinite Campus/Progress Reports

Contact MRE for volunteering and observation opportunities.
Our Goals for Student Achievement

District’s Goal: Increased Student Achievement

Middle Ridge administrators and teachers have studied students’ performance data to decide the most important areas of improvement for our school.

Teachers will design lessons that focus on student-centered instruction.

Reading:
Increase reading proficiency by 3% during the 2021-2022 school year as measured by authentic literacy common assessments.
- K-2 Decoding Skills
- 3-5 Decoding Skills & Comprehension

Math:
Increase math proficiency by 3% during the 2021-2022 school year as measured by authentic math common assessments.
- Number sense

Teachers, Students, and Parents—Together for Success

Teachers/Schools will...

Middle Ridge teachers, staff, and administrators will work with students and their families to support students’ success in literacy and math. Some of our key connections with families will be:

- Provide parents with math and literacy games through a parent resource center that is accessible daily, during parent and family workshops, parent conferences, and the after school program.
- Offer family fun nights where teachers will model strategies, including using technology, to provide hands-on activities during parent workshops to build parents’ knowledge in literacy and mathematics.
- Use MyLaunchpad to gain single access to interactive online games, eBooks, and other interactive websites to build basic literacy and math skills to use at home.

Families will...

Middle Ridge parents work with staff to develop ideas about how families can support students’ success in reading and math. Families may have other ideas to add to the list. Here are a few strategies and activities:

- Check out math and literacy games from the parent resource center after parent and family workshops, parent conferences, or when I pick up my child up from the after school program.
- Attend free family fun nights and utilize the strategies and hands-on activities to help build my child develop skill and knowledge in literacy and mathematics.
- Visit MyLaunchpad to access the free interactive online games, eBooks, and other interactive websites to build basic literacy and math skills.

Students will...

- Play math and literacy games from the parent resource center with my family to help build my literacy and math skills.
- Attend the parent and family workshops to know how to use the hands-on activities to help build my literacy and math skills.
- Visit MyLaunchpad daily, on weekends, and after school to access the free interactive online games, eBooks, and other interactive websites to share the literacy and math skills I learned with my family.