

Welcome to Lamar County Middle School! What is Title 1?



Lamar County Middle School is identified as a Title 1 school as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Title 1 is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academics standards in order to reinforce and enhance efforts to improve teaching and learning for students. Title 1 programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parental involvement. All Title 1 schools must jointly develop with all parents a written parental involvement policy.

Mission Statement

Learn today to succeed tomorrow.

Vision Statement

Lamar County Schools will provide all students with an equitable and excellent education that prepares them for college, career, and life.

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement - What is it? This is a plan that describes how Lamar County Middle School (LCMS) will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. LCMS 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 LCMS 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 developed? Lamar County Middle School welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding the parental involvement plan. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for the next year. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and post feedback throughout the year. We also offer an annual survey online and in writing to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parental involvement. Parents can also give feedback to the principal at any time via email, in writing, or in person.

Who is it for? All students participating in the Title 1 program, and their families, are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. LCMS 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 year, this plan will be distributed in multiple ways to all parents and the community. Each parent /student will receive a hard copy. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan by going to our district website at www.lamar.k12.ga.us and clicking on Lamar County Middle School and in the school Media Center.

How will you receive timely information? Information regarding up to date information regarding all Title 1 programs will be posted on our website, announced in an automated phone call, sent home in weekly flyers, and on a weekly email if requested.

LCMS will ensure:

- That parents play an integral role in assisting with their child's learning;
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;

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- That parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making opportunities and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;
- All parents will be invited to develop, review, and improve the parent involvement policy annually;
- That a parent may contact the school staff, school counselor, or administrative staff to access teachers for academic information and updates regarding their child.
- That all LCMS staff responds to parents' concerns and requests in a timely manner reflective of the method in which it was received.

What are Title 1 Compacts?

As a part of this plan, LCMS 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 of our students reach grade level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis using feedback from parents, students, and teachers in the spring of each year for planning purposes. The school - parent compacts are kept with each child's homeroom teacher if parents need a copy.



What is Parent Involvement?

LCMS 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 clubs and sporting events.

How can you as a parent stay involved and know what is going on?

- You can access all school information on the LCMS school website at www.lamar.k12.ga.us.
- You can be added to a weekly email that comes out every Sunday afternoon with the week's events. All we need is a current email address! Call the front office at 770-358-8652 to get your name added to this list.
- There are automated calls that go out daily if your child is absent, and additional calls that go out as needed to notify parents of special events and activities.
- All notification from the office comes home on Tuesday's on bright yellow paper to identify this is an important document for parents to read.
- You can access the Parent Portal on a daily basis to review your child's grades, attendance, and cafeteria/media balances.

LCMS will...

- The faculty and staff will provide parents the opportunity for face to face parent teacher conferences, by phone, or by email where teachers will provide the necessary materials and activities for parents to work with their child and improve the child's academic achievement.
- Ensure that the parent involvement policy, information on all school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities are published and posted in both English and Spanish as needed or requested on the school website, distributed in hard copy to all students, and available in the school media center.
- Conduct staff development each quarter through faculty meetings on parent involvement practices and effective strategies for staff to communicate and build partnerships with parents.
- Provide and post on our school website a course catalog of academic offerings with course descriptions, academic assessments, and student proficiency levels.

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- Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities using automated phone messages, the school website, school system Facebook page, and weekly flyers.
- Ensure that all parents have the opportunity to provide feedback on the parent involvement policy through surveys, emails, and weekly hard copy response.
- Work with our parents to provide and develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parental involvement.
- Provide necessary materials for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's academic achievement.
- Collaborate with parents, community leaders and business groups to develop, discuss, revise and agree upon the school parental involvement policy on an annual basis.
- Offer content nights for parents to help them interact with the academic content of Math, Science, S. Studies and Science.

Lamar County School System's District Goal per the Comprehensive Needs Assessment is to decrease the achievement gap in all subgroups in all content areas by 3% by June 2020.

The Lamar County School System and our parents have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students and the community.

- These standards are:*
1. *Welcoming All Families*
 2. *Communicating Effectively*
 3. *Supporting Student Success*
 4. *Speaking Up for Every Child*
 5. *Sharing Power*
 6. *Collaborating with Community*



Activities to Build Partnerships - LCMS will provide the following activities to build partnerships with parents:

- **July 26, 2017 - Open House from 2-6 p.m.**
- **August 29, 2017 - Title 1 Annual Parent Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria**
- **October 3, 2017 - Parent Teacher Conference Night from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. (Please make an appointment with the teacher.)**
- **October 20, 2016 – ASPIRE Parent Night at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria**
- **December 6, 2016 – LCMS Curriculum Night (Math / Science) 6:00- 7:30 p.m.**
- **February 6, 2018- Parent Teacher Conference Night from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. (Please make an appointment with the teacher.)**
- **March 28, 2017 – LCMS Curriculum Night (S. Studies & L. Arts) 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**
- **May 24, 2018 —End of the Year Honor's Day Program at 8:30 a.m. in the Gym**

This policy was adopted by Lamar County Middle School on 8-29-2017 for the 2017 – 2018 school year. The school will publicize and distribute a copy of this plan to all parents a local stakeholder on or school website at www.lamar12.ga.us. Hard copies will be available in the front office and Media Center for review.

For additional information, contact Dr. Julia M. Steele at 770-358-8652 or jsteele@lamar.k12.ga.us.