

Perry Middle School

Georgia School of Excellence

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Title I Parent Involvement Policy 2010-2011

Perry Middle School believes that on-going parental involvement is crucial for the success of our students. At the beginning of each school year, Perry Middle hosts a new student orientation and a school-wide open house. Some of the main goals of these meetings are to:

- Inform parents/students about the guidelines, goals, and requirements of being a Title I school
- Inform parents/students of the policies and procedures established and followed within the classroom and school
- Introduce academic curriculum and expectations
- Emphasize the importance of parental involvement at Perry Middle and provide information regarding parent participation and volunteerism

The Parent Action Team established at Perry Middle is comprised of PMS administration, staff, parents, and community members. It sets goals for improving student achievement and evaluates to see if progress has been made in attaining set goals. This committee meets annually to review/revise the Parent Involvement Policy, School-Parent-Child Compact, and School Action plan. It also meets as needed throughout the year to plan and evaluate activities.

The parents of Perry Middle students are surveyed twice annually. The guidance and counseling department distributes a "needs assessment" each fall to obtain parental input into the services parents desire to be provided, as well as suggestions and comments as to past services. The Parent Action Team also surveys parents in the spring to evaluate the effectiveness and satisfaction of the Parent Involvement program.

Communication from Perry Middle to students and families will be established in a number of ways, including but not limited to the following: Parent meetings/workshops, parent-teacher conferences; parent information center, school/team newsletters, school website, email, parent pick-up duty, and the school messenger system. Translation services available as needed.

Parents shall be involved in the education of their children through information, materials, and activities offered at a minimum of seven times throughout the school year. These opportunities include but are not limited to: Parents in the Middle, School Council, curriculum nights, conferences, workshops, extra-curricular programs, and volunteer opportunities.

An open house/orientation is held every year for parents and students prior to the first day of school. Curriculum and academic instruction is provided including academic requirements/expectations, grading/evaluating process, CRCT, and AYP. School policies, procedures, dress code, and discipline are addressed as well. The guidance department explains its procedures and services, as well as addressing attendance protocol. Other general information, such as student extra-curricular opportunities, and parent participation activities are also introduced during this session.



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The Parent-Child-Compact is a guide to build relationship between parents and school regarding academic goals. It outlines the individual responsibilities for improving student achievement to meet Georgia's high standards. Teachers are committed to using research-based strategies on a school-wide level to ensure each student receives a quality education. Strategies are tailored to meet the identified individual needs of our school and student population. Students and parents commit to expectations for school and home that will foster success and facilitate learning. Compacts are distributed the first day of school in the student handbooks. Teacher, parent, and student signatures are required and kept on file in the teacher's classroom. Translations made available as needed.

Perry Middle strives to assure that parents are kept up to date on their child's academic progress. Teachers are accessible most easily and efficiently through email, by which they share with parents the individual strengths and weaknesses they observe in their students. Tuesdays and Thursdays are also designated parent conferences days for each academic team. The school sends home grade reports every four and a half weeks either through progress reports or nine weeks report cards. The results of any formal assessments and an explanation sheet will be sent home to parents as soon as they are made available to the school.

Classroom teachers utilize Best Practices and Differentiated Instruction to present content within their classrooms that is meaningful and relevant to their students. Unfortunately, some students will demonstrate difficulties with meeting curriculum expectations. In such instances, teachers collaborate among team members, grade level, and subject area for different strategies and accommodations. They may also turn to the SST team, API, guidance department, school psychologist, or school social worker for assistance and support to promote learning for all students.

Transition activities are implemented to assist rising fifth and eighth graders to have the most successful adjustment to their new learning environments. All fifth graders are provided the opportunity to come over and spend a morning at our school. Students participate in small groups in the sixth grade classrooms with a PMS teacher and current sixth grade students. It is a time to ask questions and learn more about the challenges and opportunities as a 6th grader in a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere. Students then report to the gym for a presentation from the PMS administration, guidance and counseling department, club sponsors, athletics, and band. Lastly, students are given a tour of the school.

Beginning second semester, information begins to be disseminated to the eighth graders and their parents regarding their upcoming transition to high school. Guidance counselors/graduation coaches visit the classrooms to talk with the students regarding graduation requirements, schedules, grading policies, attendance, and other applicable changes to which they will be exposed as freshmen. The county provides an informative handbook for all students/parents. Perry High sends each student a very thorough enrollment packet to assist in the registration for fall semester. All eighth graders as well spend a morning at the high school in May becoming familiar with the campus and the personnel.

A parent resource center is made available to the parents of all students. Informative handouts and informational sheets/brochures are available and displayed in our front lobby for all who visit our school. A collection of books and more in-depth resources are available in the guidance and counseling department for parents to check out on an as-needed basis.

Perry Middle will respond to questions, concerns, or suggestions within five working days. All comments or suggestions regarding the school Title I plan, Action Plan, and Parent-Child-School Compact will be sent to the County Parent Coordinator.

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