

***Academies of Discovery @
South Hall
School Family Engagement Plan
2019-2020 School Year
Revised 8/20/2019***



**Principal: Joey Millwood
Phone: (770) 532-4416
3215 Poplar Springs Road
Gainesville, GA 30507**

What is Title I?

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

**School Plan for Shared Student Achievement
Academies of Discovery @ South Hall**

What is it? This is a plan that describes how The Academies of Discovery @ South Hall will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Academies of Discovery @ South Hall 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 The Academies of Discovery @ South Hall Middle will support family engagement and how families can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it developed? The Academies of Discovery @ South Hall invites all parents to attend an annual parent and family engagement input meeting in the spring to review and revise this parent and family engagement policy, as well as the school/district consolidated needs assessment, school/district improvement plans, school-parent compact, and the parent and family engagement budget. The Academies of Discovery @ South Hall Middle welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding the plan. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and post feedback throughout the year. We also distribute an annual survey for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent involvement. Parents can also give feedback during our annual community session with school leaders to revise the plan for the upcoming school year.

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. The Academies of Discovery @ South Hall Middle 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, after revision, the plan is revised with the parent involvement committees from each team and the stakeholders. Then the plan is sent home to all parents after it is approved. The plan is also posted on our school website and is available in English and Spanish.

District Goals

1. By the end of FY20 the percentage of students in each subgroup moving into the "Proficient" and "Distinguished" levels of performance on the Georgia Milestone Assessments will increase by 2% in the "Proficient" and "Distinguished" levels of performance.
2. By the end of FY20, the "Closing the Gaps" score will increase by 10% (based on FY19 "Closing the Gaps" score) at each level (elementary, middle, and high).
3. By the end of FY20, the percentage of Economically Disadvantaged students moving into the "Proficient" and "Distinguished" levels of performance on the Georgia Milestones ELA Assessments will increase by 3% in the "Proficient" and "Distinguished" levels of performance.

AOD @ South Hall Goal:

Rigorous, student-centered methods implemented in 100% of SHMS classes in SY19-20 resulting in 3+% gains in students proficient or better in ELA and Math.

- 6th and 7th graders will read and comprehend all types of texts proficiently with support
- 8th graders will read and comprehend all types of 6-8 grade texts independently and proficiently.
- 6th -8th grade students will master basic calculations involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of numbers represented as fractions, decimals, and/or percentages.

School-Parent-Student Compacts

As part of this plan, Academies of Discovery @ South Hall 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 first Parent Input meeting. The signed school-parent-student compacts are kept in the Front Office, and parents receive a copy to keep at home.

Family Engagement Program and Activities

The Academies of Discovery @ South Hall Middle—will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parental and family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

- ✓ **September 26, 2019** - **"What should my child learn this year and how will I know if he is successful?"** *_Academic expectations/Reading support strategies/Math support/Interpreting Georgia Milestones Assessments and Navigating the AOD website, Canvas, and Infinite Campus*
- ✓ **October 17, 2019** -
6:00 PM- Graduation Plans and Preparing for Programs of Choice/Title I Annual Meeting-
We invite you to learn about graduation plans and programs of choice as well as our Title I program including our Family Engagement Policy, the school-wide plan, the school-parent –student compacts and parental requirements. Invitations will be sent with the student(s) and details will be posted on the school website. We will also provide information regarding when 8th graders may tour high schools..
- ✓ **November 21, 2019** – **"Interpreting GA Milestones results and how to assist my child"** Learn what test scores mean and how you can help your child get the most out of testing.
- ✓ **January 23, 2020** - **"Internet Safety and Digital Awareness"** - Learn the benefits of the internet and the things you need to watch out for. Learn how to help your child navigate through their online life and how to avoid the dangers of the digital world.
- ✓ **February 27, 2020** – **GA Milestone Preparation-** Learn how to help your child be more prepared for Milestones testing to relieve anxiety and ensure success!
- ✓ **March 26, 2020- 6th Grade Parent Information Night and Parent Input Meeting-** meet with 6th grade counselor, LeAnn Owens to help you and your child navigate the transition to Middle School! Parents and stakeholders provide input for school improvement plan, parent and family engagement policy, family and parent engagement budget and school-parent compact.
- ✓ **April 23, 2020** – **Summer Opportunities** - Plan meaningful learning experiences during the summer (Hall County Library System, Bus on Wheels, Summer Reading Programs, Seamless Summer Option (Free lunch meals) for you and your child!
- ✓ **May 14, 2020- Second Annual 6th Grade EXTRAVAGANZA!**

All Meetings are held at 6 pm on the dates provided unless otherwise stated.

Parental Involvement

Academies of Discovery @ South Hall 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.

The Academies of Discovery @ South Hall Middle is committed to helping our 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) 532-4416 Ext. 102

Daniela.Klein-Arndt@hallco.org

School Measures to Provide Required Assistance

Academies of Discovery @ South Hall 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.

- ✓ All parents are invited to parenting meetings throughout the school year. We have transformed these gatherings to meet the needs of the parents. A variety of meeting topics will be provided on the website and in newsletters. These meetings will be recorded and posted on our website (www.shms.hallco.org) for parents whose schedules or budgets do not allow them time or gas to come to the school building and will promote those through our website and newsletters.
- ✓ Conduct staff development each quarter on parent involvement practices and effective strategies for staff to communicate and build partnerships with parents.
- ✓ Canvas Pages will be updated to assist parents in supporting their children in rigorous and relevant learning.
- ✓ One meeting each year is designated for the purpose of informing parents of their school's participation in Title I and to explain the program, its requirements, and their right to be involved.
Meeting date: October 17, 2020 @ 6 pm.
- ✓ We begin our school year with an Open House for students and parents. We encourage all parents to meet their children's teachers, tour the school, learn about our programs, and sign up for their Infinite Campus code to allow them to check their students' progress at any time. A telephone notice will ensure all know about this important time.
- ✓ We welcome parents to come and eat lunch with their children and for conferences when a parent, teacher, or student has a need, and we provide a parent liaison for Spanish speakers.
- ✓ The School Improvement Team and parents review programs and concerns, and approves the teacher-parent-student compact that outlines how all will share the responsibility to increase student achievement.
- ✓ Parent volunteers are welcomed throughout the year. Contact the school office at (770) 532-4416 extension 102 or email Daniela.Klein-Arndt@hallco.org if you are interested in volunteering!
- ✓ Continuous communication to assist parents in understanding their child's achievements and the school's curriculum is made available through report cards, progress reports, student agendas, the Infinite Campus website, Canvas Pages and newsletters.

Parent Involvement Standards

Academies of Discovery @ SHMS 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

Parent Involvement Committee

Academies of Discovery @ SHMS- invites all parents to join the Parent Involvement Committee 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 at any time. If you would like to learn more about the Parent Involvement Committee, please contact the principal, Joey Millwood, at 770.532.4416 or complete the interest form and leave it in the Main Office.

Parent Involvement Committee

- ☐ Yes, please contact me so I can learn more about the Parent Involvement Committee
- ☐ Yes, this sounds like a great idea; please keep me posted about future meetings

Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Grade (circle one) 6 7 8 Homeroom Teacher _____



Share Your Thoughts

We want 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:

Name: (optional) _____

Telephone Number: (optional) _____

