

**Academies of Discovery @  
South Hall**

**Parent and Family Engagement Policy and  
Plan for Shared Success  
2021-2022 School Year**



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(Revised 6/30/2021)

***What is Title I?***

The Academies of Discovery @ South Hall is identified as a Title I school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). 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 family engagement to support student learning. Academies of Discovery @ South Hall values the contributions and involvement of parents and family members 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 revised?** 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 family engagement. Parents and family members 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 posted on the school's website, presented at the Annual Title I meeting, and sent home via Infinite Campus to all parents after it is approved. Copies are also available in the school's front office.

### **District Goals**

1. By the end of FY22, 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 FY23, the percentage of students in each subgroup meeting "Proficient" levels of performance on local assessments will increase by 2%.
3. Increase the percentage of referred students who access school-based mental health services by 2% each year (with FY21 being the baseline year).

### **2021-2022 School Goals**

By the end of FY'22, the percentage of students moving up a performance level on the common local in Language Arts and Math will increase by 2% (with FY 21 being a baseline year).

By the end of FY '22, 100% of students will self-monitor their progress, in order to increase student efficacy and increase academic growth.

By the end of FY'22, every student will report having a trusted adult they can rely upon in the school building.

By the end of FY'22, increase the number of students achieving proficient or distinguished learner status on standardized assessments by continuing to practice reflective and research-based strategies (Marzano's high yield strategies and lesson components).

### **School-Parent 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 school-parent-student compacts are kept in the Front Office, and a digital copy posted on the school website.

### **Let's Get Together!**

**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.

#### **August 3<sup>rd</sup> - Open House (4-7 pm)**

Meet your child's teacher and our friendly staff!

#### **October 14<sup>th</sup> – Annual Title I Meeting (10 am and 6 pm)**

We invite you to learn about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the school-wide plan, our school-family compact, and parent requirements. Invitations will be posted on our website and sent via Infinite Campus Messenger.

#### **November 1<sup>st</sup> - Mental Health Awareness Night (Virtual at 6pm)**

Learn with our wonderful counselors how to foster positive mental health with your child and family during this virtual meeting!

**Student Showcase Nights: (6pm- 7pm)** Each night will be an opportunity for your child to "show what they know" and what they have been learning in class on these awesome nights!

- **October 18<sup>th</sup> - Social Studies and Science**
- **December 9<sup>th</sup> - Family Literacy Night**
- **January 20<sup>th</sup> - Math**

#### **February 24<sup>th</sup> - Carnegie Unit/ Programs of Choice Parent Meeting (6pm-7pm)**

Join us for an informational meeting on the purpose of Carnegie Units and how benefit in obtaining required credits for high school. You will also get an overview of the many Programs of Choice offered in the Hall County School District.

#### **March 24<sup>th</sup> - Milestones Preparation Parent Meeting (6pm-7pm)**

Learn how to your students can prepare for the upcoming test from expert teachers, counselors, and school staff.

#### **April 28<sup>th</sup> - Annual Title I Parent Input Meeting (10am and 6pm)**

Parents have an opportunity to provide input into the revision of the School Improvement Plan, Comprehensive Needs Assessment, Parent Involvement Plan, Parent Compact, and Parent Involvement Budget.

#### **May 12<sup>th</sup> - Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night (5:30pm-7pm)**

Join us for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Extravaganza to become oriented in ways to support your child through the transition from 5<sup>th</sup> grade to middle school

### ***Parental and Family Engagement***

Academies of Discovery @ South Hall believes 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.

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### ***AOD is Branching Out!***

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. Meeting times will be posted on our website ([www.shms.hallco.org](http://www.shms.hallco.org))
- ✓ 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 14, 2021 @ 10 am and 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.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ We partner with elementary schools and high schools, college and career ready resources or organizations, parent resource centers to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.

### ***Parent and Family Engagement 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 virtually 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 [joey.millwood@hallco.org](mailto:joey.millwood@hallco.org) or complete the interest form and leave it in the Main Office.

### ***School Community Team***

- ☐ 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) \_\_\_\_\_

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