

## **Mamie Lou Gross Elementary School Parent**

### **Family Engagement Plan**

**2020-2021 School Year**



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### **What is Title I?**

Mamie Lou Gross Elementary School 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 the challenging State academic standards 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 family engagement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with parents and family members a written parent and family engagement policy.

### **School Plan for Shared Student Achievement**

**What is it?** This is a plan that describes how Mamie Lou Gross Elementary School will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Mamie Lou Gross Elementary School values the contributions and involvement of parents and family members to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Mamie Lou Gross Elementary School will support family 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?** Mamie Lou Gross Elementary School welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding the plan. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for next year. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and provide feedback throughout the year. We also distribute an annual survey online and by student to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent involvement. Any parent comments indicating the plan is unsatisfactory will be submitted to the Director of Federal Programs.

**What feedback indicated?** The yearly survey showed that parents feel that their child is safe at school, and they are pleased with the instructional program provided. They expressed a desire for specific information on ways they can help improve their child's reading skills. They also wanted information on bullying. Parents indicated they would like to receive this in the form of handouts/articles/resources and were not as interested in attending workshops. If there was a workshop available, they preferred the afternoon or evening hours. All efforts are made to address opportunities for regular meetings and events as requested by parents.

**Who is it for?** All students and their families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Mamie Lou Gross Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, parents with disabilities and parents of students with disabilities, parents of migratory children, as well as guardians of children served through the Methodist Children's Home. Mamie Lou Gross Elementary School will offer childcare and transportation to the extent practicable upon request.

**Where is it available?** Once adopted, the plan is posted on-line on the school website, in the school resource room, in the front offices.

### **Elementary School Promotion Standards**

Grades 1-5

Students must pass language arts, reading, mathematics, science, and social studies and connections courses as they apply.

All students in grades 1-2 must have a passing final grade of "2" or higher in language arts and mathematics; and "S" for satisfactory in science and social studies.

- All students in grades 3 – 5 must have passing final grades of 70% or higher in language arts, reading, mathematics, science, and social studies.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade students must also pass the Reading of the Georgia Milestones EOG.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students must also pass the Reading AND Mathematics portions of the Georgia Milestones EOG.

## Parent Resource Center

The Parent Resource Center is stocked with a variety of materials and resources to help your child achieve academic success. *Open school days from 8:00 – 4:00.*

### 2020-2021 District Goals

1. To increase the percentage of students in grades 3- 12 meeting proficient or higher on the GMAS ELA EOC/EOG from 58% to 63% (ES) 57% to 60% (MS) & 73% to 76% (HS)
2. To increase the percentage of students in grades 6 - 8 meeting proficient or higher on the GMAS Math EOG from 54% to 57%.

### 2020-2021 School Goals

1. To increase the percentage of students in grade five performing at the proficient and distinguished levels on the 2021 Science EOG from 35.8% to 38.8%
2. To increase the percentage of students in grades 3 -5 performing at the proficient and distinguished performance levels in ELA on the 2021 EOG from 49% to 52%.
3. To increase the percentage of students in grades 3-5 performing at the proficient and distinguished performance levels in Math on the 2021 EOG from 60% to 63%

### Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Camden County Schools has adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the county'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

### School-Parent Compacts

- ✓ As part of this plan, Mamie Lou Gross Elementary 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.
- ✓ Parents will retain a copy of the compact for their use
- ✓ Additionally the compact can be viewed on-line, and will be provided to parents upon request. Teachers will review the compacts with parents during conferences.

### Title I Meetings

Mamie Lou Gross Elementary School invites all parents to participate in scheduled meetings, to share ideas and ways to involve other parents, and to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. Parents can also submit their ideas or suggestions during all activities and meetings as well as through our parent surveys and website. Each spring a Stakeholder meeting is held to collect feedback and review the School- Parent-Compact and Parent & Family Engagement Plan as well as gather input on expenditures of the Title I funds set aside for parent engagement expenditures. Input is also gathered on the topics related to building the capacity of staff to collaborate with families for student achievement. An annual meeting is held each fall prior to November 1<sup>st</sup> to share the Title I documents and plan and the activities for the year. The school's academic status, parental rights to teacher qualifications, and the Federal Complaints

## Parental Involvement

Mamie Lou Gross Elementary School 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 have the right to know the qualifications of teachers and paraprofessionals
- That parents know there is a grievance procedure & how to access it
- 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 including Title I Stakeholder Input Meeting, Annual Title I Meeting, Monthly School Council meetings;
- The carrying out of other activities as described in this plan.

Mamie Lou Gross Elementary School is committed to helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please call or e-mail us if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs.

*Matt Kimbrell*

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## Mamie Lou Gross Elementary is Branching Out!

Mamie Lou Gross Elementary 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. We will –

- ✓ Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and requested languages (per home language survey) and posted on the school website and included in school newsletter for all parents.
- ✓ Conduct on-going staff development on parent involvement practices including the value of parental contributions, communicating in understandable language and as equal partners and responding to parental requests for information and activities.
- ✓ Share information to assist parents in understanding the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ✓ Assist parents in setting up parent PowerSchool e-mail alert messages.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, via phone messages, Facebook, and flyers.
- ✓ Work with our parents to 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 achievement.
- ✓ Collaborate with community leaders and business groups to increase participation and awareness of the school parental involvement plan and activities.
- ✓ Provide parents with a description and explanation of state and local assessments used to measure progress and achievements levels of the challenging state academic standards.
- ✓ Offer parent workshops on relevant and topics such as GA Standards of Excellence, The GA Milestones Assessment, parental strategies to support academic achievement, and how to partner with the school for success.
- ✓ Listen and respond to parents' requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.
- ✓ Assist parents and students in transitions between elementary and middle school.

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

***Mamie Lou Gross Elementary School 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:***

1. Title I Stakeholder meeting – Google Document will be available online.
2. Open House: July 31, 2020
3. Pre-K Parent Orientation – Virtual Meeting through PPT and handouts August 27, 2020
4. Camden County Collaborative Conferences – Student Data will be sent to parents three times a year. With a virtual meeting overview to review data and set goals. Other parent conferences will be as needed virtually. Week of September 28, 2020; Week of January 25, 2021; Week of April 5, 2021
5. Parent and Community Member Volunteer Training – Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are unable to have volunteers at this time.
6. Fall Festival – Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are unable to have a Fall Festival.
7. Fire Prevention Program for Kindergarten-Second grades – To be determined based on information concerning Covid-19 restrictions.
8. Book Fairs: October 05-09, 2020 for students only and March 15-19, 2021 for students and possibly parents from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Virtual ordering will be available for both dates.
9. Field Day - TBD
10. End of Year Awards - TBA
11. MLG Pre-K Transition Activity: April/May 2020– Students visit kindergarten classrooms to experience what a day in the life of a kindergartener will be like.