

The background of the cover features a photograph of Northside Middle School, a brick building with a gabled roof and decorative brickwork. The school's name is visible on the facade. The image is partially obscured by dark green and yellow geometric shapes.

Ms. Tiffany Davis,
Family Engagement Liaison

Title I

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT HANDBOOK

Dr. Alma Mundy, Principal
500 Johnson Road
Warner Robins, GA 31093

2025 - 2026

Revised 8/5/2025

A Parent's Guide to Title I

What is Title I?

Title I, Part A is a federally funded program under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The purpose of Title I under ESSA is to ensure that **all** children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and state academic assessments.

Which Houston County schools are Title I schools?

CB Watson Primary	Northside High	Tucker Elementary
Centerville Elementary	Northside Middle	Warner Robins Middle
Eagle Springs Elementary	Parkwood Elementary	Warner Robins High
Huntington Middle	Pearl Stephens Elementary	Westside Elementary
Miller Elementary	Russell Elementary	Langston Road Primary
Morning Elementary	Shirley Hills Elementary	
Northside Elementary	Thomson Middle	



What supports are provided through Title I?

The Title I Program offers a variety of supports, which may include, but are not limited to, additional teachers, support staff, instructional materials and supplies, technology to support student learning, tutoring, professional development for school staff, and capacity building events for families.

What role does family engagement play in Title I?

Family engagement is an integral part of the ESSA law. Districts and schools receiving Title I funding must:

- Ensure that high-quality academic assessments, accountability systems, teacher preparation and training, curriculum, and instructional materials are aligned with challenging State academic standards so that students, teachers, parents and administrators can measure progress against common expectations for student academic achievement.
- Afford parents substantial and meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.



Families,

You can have a tremendous influence on your child's success in school. By partnering with the school and participating in the Title I program, you will:

- show your child that you support and value his/her education.
- be able to closely monitor your student's progress.
- build stronger relationships between home and school.
- provide valuable input about schoolwide programs.

Research shows that students whose families are engaged perform better academically, socially and behaviorally. Be sure to become involved in your child's school by:

- communicating regularly with your child's teacher.
- attending academic-based family events and parent-teacher conferences.
- volunteering at the school.
- joining the Parent Action Team or School Council.
- providing input concerning the Title I program at the school.

Northside Middle School

THE CONNECTION

Family-School Engagement Plan and Compact

2025 - 2026



*Dr. Alma Mundy, Principal
500 Johnson Road
Warner Robins, GA 31088*

www.nms.hcbe.net

Revision Date: 8/5/2025

What is Title I?

Northside Middle School is identified as a Title I school as a part of 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 plan and compact.

THE CONNECTION

What is it?

The Connection is a comprehensive document joining our School-Family Engagement Plan and Compact together with the purpose of strengthening the bond between school and home. The Engagement Plan describes how our school will provide opportunities to improve family engagement that will support student learning at school and at home. All students and their families are invited and encouraged to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. The school will provide information and as many opportunities as possible for the participation of all family members. The Compact explains what teachers, parents and students each will do in an effort to work together to make sure that our students reach grade level standards. The Compact is discussed with families during parent-teacher conferences throughout the school year.

How is it revised?

The Connection is jointly developed and revised by our school's stakeholders. All families are invited to attend our annual Shared Decision-Making Meeting (SDM) held each spring. Families are asked to review and give feedback on the Engagement Plan, Compact, and budget including the 1% set aside. All feedback forms from the SDM Meetings are collected, reviewed and used to revise this document and to improve program planning for the next school year. Families who are not able to attend the SDM Meeting have the opportunity to provide input by completing an online feedback form and completing the Title I Parent Satisfaction Survey that seeks suggestions regarding the plan, compact and budget.

Who is it for?

The Connection is for all students attending a Title I school and their families. We encourage and invite families to fully participate in the opportunities described in this document. Our school will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, of migratory children and caretakers of students served in Neglected and Delinquent Centers.

Where is it available?

The Connection is included in our Title I Handbook that is provided to all parents and families at the beginning of the year or whenever a new student enrolls. The Connection is also available on our school website and in our Parent Resource Center. Families can request a copy at any time during the school year.

Let's Stay Connected

Northside Middle School believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. Here are the ways to stay connected and informed.

- HCSD App
- Progress Reports and Report Cards
- Infinite Campus
- School Website
- Social Media
- Callouts
- Emails
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Newsletters

Access to Staff

- Our school has an open-door policy.
- All teachers and staff are available through email. See the school webpage for contact information.
- Conferences may be scheduled directly with your child's teacher or through the Main office at (478) 929-7845.



ACTIVITIES TO BUILD PARTNERSHIPS

Northside Middle School plans the following events to build the capacity for strong parent and family engagement and to support a partnership among school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. Meetings and events are scheduled at various times and in different formats to accommodate the needs of our families. These events may be held in person or virtually.

Event	Focus	Date
Meet and Greet	Welcoming	July 25, 2025
Open House/Technology	Curriculum Standards	August 28, 2025
Annual Title I Meeting	Informational	August 28, 2025
EL Night (A Comprehensive Overview)	Informational	October 2, 2025
Spanish Heritage Night	Welcoming Climate	October 2, 2025
Fall Festival & Technology Night	WC/Technology	October 23, 2025
Math & Science Night/MAP	Curriculum/Testing	November 20, 2025
ELA & Social Studies Night/MAP	Curriculum/Testing	December 18, 2025
Parent Action Team Meeting	SDM	December 4, 2025
Title I Parent Satisfaction Survey	SDM	January 2026
Voices for the Vision	SDM	March 2026
Milestones Workshop	Testing	January 2026
Rising 6th Grade Parent Night	Transition	March 17, 2026
Parent Teacher Conferences	Curriculum	Ongoing

Northside Middle School wants to help all our families participate in our family engagement activities. If you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to attend the events listed in this plan, contact our Family Engagement Liaison for more information and assistance.

Tiffany Davis
(478) 988-6200 ext. 2771
Tiffany.davis@hcbe.net

Family Engagement Liaison

Our FEL is **Tiffany Davis**. She is available to assist families in a variety of ways from finding resources, connecting with teachers and administrators, navigating Infinite Campus and providing opportunities for you to learn how to help your student at home.

(478) 929-7845

Tiffany.davis@hcbe.net

Parent Resource Center

Visit the Parent Resource Center to get pamphlets, brochures, and other resource materials to use at home with your child.

Located in the NMS Front Office Lobby
Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Serve on the NMS Parent Engagement Team
- Serve on the School Council
- Serve as chaperone for field trips
- Attend and/or assist with Book Fairs, student performances and sporting events
- Organize Staff Appreciation

Our Pledge to our Parents and Families

Northside Middle School will take the following measures to promote and support parents as equal partners in their child's education. To reach our goal of the highest quality of student achievement, Northside Middle School pledges to support our students and their families as the foundation of the school. We will:

- ✓ Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is published in both English and Spanish and posted on the website or on social media.
- ✓ Provide training for staff on the value and contribution of parents, on ways to improve communication, on ideas to build strong partnerships with families, on providing information in a friendly format, and on responding to parent requests four times during the school year.
- ✓ Partner with college and career-ready organizations to provide resources to help prepare families and their students for successful school transitioning.
- ✓ Share information/materials related to school and parent engagement activities, meetings and workshops in English and Spanish.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events through school messenger, social media, school website, newsletters and flyers.
- ✓ Work with parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.
- ✓ Provide information for parents to better understand Georgia Standards of Excellence and assessments for all grade levels.
- ✓ Collaborate with stakeholders and community/business leaders to increase awareness of family and community engagement programs.
- ✓ Connect families to classes or support groups to help further enhance our parent's various educational levels.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents and family members after academic events to respond to parents' requests for additional support for engagement activities.

2025 - 2026 District Goals

Increase by at least 2 percentage points the number of students performing at or above proficiency in core content areas in grades 6-8 as measured by Milestones assessment scores.

Increase the percentage of parents who feel their child's school provides various opportunities for engagement.

2025 - 2026 School Goals

Northside Middle School will increase our 2025 CCRPI content mastery score by 3% in Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Northside Middle School will also implement, with fidelity, research-based programs designed to address positive behaviors.

In addition, by the end of the 2025-2026 school year, 50% of the student population will meet or exceed their projected growth in reading and mathematics as measured by MAP (Measure of Academic Progress).

Grade Level: 6-8

Focus Areas

- Literacy
 - Reading fluency and comprehension
- Math
 - Operations with rational numbers

Our Compact: Teachers, Families and Students –Together for Success

NMS will...

- Provide parents with their student's Lexile score and help families set goals for improvement through the use of the IXL program.
- Provide parents with their student's MAP scores and encourage use of IXL for additional support in reading and math.
- Provide families with resources such as websites, newsletters, and videos related to Literacy and Math.
- Offer a variety of opportunities for parents to be involved in their student's education, such as academic-based workshops, and Shared Decision-Making Meetings.

Families will...

- Set goals for students to help improve their Lexile score through working with IXL.
- Encourage students to work on skill plans using IXL.
- Utilize the school resources available, such as websites, newsletters and videos related to Literacy and Math to assist their student.
- Be an active participant in student's education by taking advantage of academic-based workshops, meetings, and surveys initiated by the school.

Students will...

- Read daily and strive to reach the goal set to increase their Lexile score through IXL.
- Be diligent in accessing IXL to improve Math skills.
- Utilize school resources provided on websites, newsletter, and videos related to Literacy and Math.
- Attend academic-based workshops with parents.



Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Richard Rogers

Board Members

Helen Hughes, Chair

Dr. Rick Unruh, Vice Chair

Dave Crockett

Mark Ivory

Clyde Jackson, Jr.

Lori Johnson

Jon Nichols

July 30, 2025

Right to Know Professional Qualifications of Teachers and Paraprofessionals

Dear Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s),

In compliance with the requirements of the Every Students Succeeds Act, the Houston County School System would like to inform you that you may request information about the professional qualifications of your student's teacher(s) and/ or paraprofessional(s). The following information may be requested:

- Whether the student's teacher—
 - has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
 - is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
 - is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

If you wish to request information concerning your child's teacher's and/ or paraprofessional's qualifications, please contact your child's school or you may contact Dana Morris, Director of Federal Programs, at the Houston County Board of Education at (478) 988-6200 ext. 3449 or at email dana.h.morris@hcbe.net.

Thank you for your interest and involvement in your child's education.

Sincerely,
Dana Morris, Director of Federal Program

Copyright Piracy Awareness Notification

Title I, Part A, Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) states that Title I schools shall provide information and resources to help parents and families work with their children to understand the harms of copyright piracy. In keeping with this requirement, definitions of relevant terms as well as links to websites that may be helpful in educating children concerning copyright piracy regulations are included below.

Copyright-a form of protection given to creators and authors of literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works. A copyright means that the author has the right to do or let other do any of the following things:

- Make copies
- Distribute copies
- Perform work publicly
- Display work publicly
- Make modifications or adaptations

Generally, it is illegal for anyone to do any of the things listed above without the creator's permission. However, there are some exceptions and limitations to this right. One major limitation is the Doctrine of Fair Use.

Copyright Piracy-Unauthorized reproduction for sale or use of a copyrighted work such as a book, lyric or software.

Online Resources:

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/videos/teaching-kids-about-copyright-piracy>

<http://www.copyrightkids.org/>

If additional assistance or more information is needed, the media specialist at your child's school can help.

Title I Complaint Procedures

Although the below steps are recommended for the most efficient resolution at the lowest level, the parent/student has the right to by-pass these steps at any time and request an impartial due process hearing related to decisions or actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program or placement. The parent and the student may take part in the hearing and have an attorney represent you at your own expense. The impartial Hearing Officer will be selected by the district. Hearing requests must be made to the Title Coordinator identified in Step II below.

Step I

The complaint shall be presented orally or in writing to the school principal within ten (10) calendar days after the most recent incident upon which the complaint is based. Any witness or other evidence should be provided at this time. The administrator will conduct an investigation and render a written decision within ten (10) calendar days of the filing of the complaint.

Step II

A complainant dissatisfied with the decision of the school principal may appeal to the System Title I/Title II Coordinator by submitting a written statement of complaint to the System Title I/Title II Coordinator. This statement must be filed within ten (10) calendar days after the complainant receives the decision from the school principal. The complaint should be mailed to:

Mrs. Dana Morris, Federal Programs Director
Houston County Board of Education
Post Office Box 1850
Perry, GA 31069
Phone: (478) 988-6200
dana.h.morris@hcbe.net

Upon receipt of the written statement, the Title I/Title II Coordinator will schedule a meeting to attempt resolution of the concerns. The System Title I/Title II Coordinator will render a written decision within ten (10) calendar days after the meeting.

Step III

A complainant dissatisfied with the decision of the System Title I/Title II Coordinator may appeal to the Houston County Board of Education by filing a written request to the Office of the Superintendent. The complaint should be mailed to:


Dr. Richard Rogers
Office of the Superintendent
Houston County Board of Education
Post Office Box 1850
Perry, GA 31069

The appeal must be filed within ten (10) calendar days after the complainant receives the decision from the System Title I/Title II Coordinator. The Board of Education will act on the complaint at the next scheduled BOE meeting.

PBIS

NMS PBIS Mission

The mission of Northside Middle School is to establish a strong foundation for life-long learning by preparing students to achieve their maximum potential.

 NMS Behavior Expectations					
EXPECTATION	CLASSROOM	BATHROOM	CAFETERIA	HALLWAYS	GYMNASIUM
I AM POSITIVE	Use positive words Have positive interactions Apply good manners	Give personal space	Use positive words Use school language Be friendly Use good manners	Use positive words Move peacefully to your next location Exhibit appropriate behaviors	Use positive words Move peacefully to your designated area Include others in activities
I AM RESPONSIBLE	Be prepared with required materials & supplies Complete all assignments Keep areas clean & safe	Flush then wash hands Wait your turn Avoid hanging out Keep areas clean & safe	Gather food items and utensils the first time Wait your turn Keep areas clean & safe	Gather required materials Move in a quiet orderly manner Keep areas clean & safe Open and shut lockers quietly	Line up quietly when signal is given Follow activity or assembly rules Keep areas clean & safe
I HAVE INTEGRITY	Be honest Stay in designated area	Respect privacy Use manners Report concerning matters	Be honest Line up properly	Report to designated area Report concerning matters Have a pass	Use equipment properly Be a good audience member (assembly) Listen/watch
I AM DISCIPLINED	Prompt Follow instruction Enter/exit quietly Stay organized	Use facility appropriately Use time wisely	Stay in your seat Talk quietly Enter/exit quietly Refrain from throwing items	Move in one line in one direction Use inside voices Stay out of other classrooms	Participate appropriately Remain with assigned teacher
I AM ENGAGED	Participate actively Be productive Protect resources	Get in and get out quickly	Follow instruction Use inside voices	Walk on the right side	Show good sportsmanship Be productive/ participate daily

- **What is PBIS?**

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), is an evidence-based, data-driven framework proven to reduce disciplinary incidents, increase a school's sense of safety and support academic outcomes.

The premise of PBIS is that continual teaching, combined with acknowledgement or feedback of positive student behavior will reduce unnecessary discipline and promote a climate of greater productivity, safety and learning. PBIS schools apply a multi-tiered approach to prevention, using disciplinary data and principles of behavior analysis to develop school-wide, targeted and individualized interventions and supports to improve school climate for all students. (OSEP Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports). Excerpt from Middle Georgia RESA website.

- **What is PBIS at Northside Middle School?**

Northside Middle's School-Wide Expectations are for students to have **PRIDE** by:

- Being **P**ositive
- Being **R**espectful
- Having **I**ntegrity
- Being **D**isciplined
- Being **E**ngaged

These expectations, along with the appropriate positive behaviors, are displayed in different areas of the school as reminders for students. Students will receive ongoing instruction from staff on our school-wide expectations in all areas of our school. The classroom, restroom, cafeteria, hallways, bus, computer lab, media center, gym, and after-school activities are all settings where students will be expected to act in a prideful manner.

Title I Handbook Acknowledgement Form

Northside Middle School

Dear Families and Students,

For the 2025-2026 school year, our Title I Handbook is available for your viewing on our school website at www.nms.hcbe.net under the Family Engagement tab.

The purpose of the Title I Handbook is to provide our families with detailed information regarding what it means to be a part of a Title I school. The handbook is also a critical component in helping to build a strong relationship between home and school. The documents included in the handbook are the *Parent's Guide to Title I*, *The Connection (Family Engagement Plan and Grade Level Compact)*, *Right to Know Teacher and Paraprofessional Qualifications*, *Copyright Piracy Awareness and Complaint Procedure*.

If you prefer a printed copy of the handbook, please indicate in the space provided and we will gladly provide one for you.

Additionally, we ask that you sign and date acknowledging access and agreement to the school-Family Compact then return the form to your child's school.

Please choose one of the following options:

_____ I will access the Title I Handbook on the school's webpage. I do not wish to receive a printed copy.

_____ I would like to receive a printed, hard copy of the Title I Handbook. Please send one home with my child.

School-Parent Compact Signatures:

School Representative Signature: _____
Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____
Date: _____

Student Name (print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____ Grade: _____

To be completed by school personnel only

Hard copy of Title I Handbook given to _____
Student Name

Date _____ By: _____
School Personnel