

Thomson Middle School

THE CONNECTION

*Family-School Engagement Plan and Compact
2024-2025*



*Dr. Scott Wynn, Principal
301 Thomson Street
Centerville, GA 31028*

www.tms.hcbe.net

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What is Title I?

Thomson Middle School is identified as a Title I school as a 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 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 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 as well.

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 be sent to them at any time during the school year.

Let's Stay Connected

Thomson 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.

- Infinite Campus
- Progress Reports and Report Cards
- School Website
- Social Media
- School Messenger Callouts
- Emails
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Tiger Connection Monthly Newsletter

Access to Staff

- Our school has an open-door policy.
- All teachers and staff are available through email. See the school's WebSite for direct links to faculty and staff email.
- Conferences may be scheduled directly with your child's teachers or by calling the Main Office at (478) 953-0489.



ACTIVITIES TO BUILD PARTNERSHIPS

Thomson Middle School plans the following events to Build the Capacity for strong Parent/Guardian and Family Engagement and to support a partnership among school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. Meetings, Events and Activities are scheduled at various times and in different formats to accommodate the needs of our families. These events may be held in person at or virtually.

Event	Focus	Date
Meet & Greet	Welcoming	July 26, 2024
Academic Open House	Curriculum	August 27, 2024
Annual Title I Parent/Guardian Meeting	Welcoming Climate	August 27, 2024
ESOL/ELL Parent Event	ESOL	August 15, 2024
MAPs Purpose, Scores and Goal Setting ~ Lunch and Learn	Testing/Assessment	September 17, 2024
Action Team for Partnership/Parent Forum	SDM	October 15, 2024
Math Family Event	Curriculum	October 29, 2024
STEM – Science Family Event	Curriculum	November 19, 2024
Get Connected	Technology	Ongoing
Chorus Concerts	Welcoming Climate	December 2024/May 2025
Band Concerts	Welcoming Climate	December 2024/May 2025
ELA Winter Wonderland	Literacy	December 2024
Title I Parent Satisfaction Survey	SDM	February 2024
GA Milestones Parent Informational Meeting & The Amazing Race	Testing/Assessment	February 20, 2025
Voices for the Vision	SDM	February 2025
8 th Grade High School Registration	Transition	March 2025
6 th Grade Orientation	Transition	July 2025
Award Ceremonies	Welcoming Climate	May 2025

Thomson Middle School wants to help all our families participate in our Family Engagement Activities. If you need assistance such as Childcare or Transportation to attend the events listed in this plan, or any advertised event, please let us know. Please contact our Family Engagement Liaison for more information and assistance.

Alesia C Chadwick, Family Engagement Liaison
Direct Line (478) 210-8148
alesia.chadwick@hcbe.net

Family Engagement Liaison

Our FEL is **Alesia Chadwick**. She is available to assist families in a variety of ways from School & Community Event information, Researching and Locating Resources, connecting you with teachers and administrators, and providing resources for you to support your student in the “learning at home” process.

Office (478) 953-0489 ext. 3478
Direct Line & Fax (478) 218-8148
alesia.chadwick@hcbe.net



Like us on Facebook

Family Resource Center

Visit the Parent Resource Center to get Homework Help, Insightful Articles, Transitions, College and Career Readiness, and many other resource materials to assist you.

Family Engagement Office

Monday – Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm

Volunteer opportunities



We welcome and encourage parental involvement. Volunteers are required to have a background check on file and complete Thomson’s Volunteer Training in order to participate in some areas.

Our Pledge to our Parents and Families

Thomson Middle School will take the following measures to promote and support parents/guardians as equal partners in their student’s education. In order to reach our goal of the highest quality of student achievement, Thomson 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, Parent/Guardian and Family Engagement Activities, Meetings and Workshops in English and Spanish.
- ✓ Communicate with all Families and our Community on a regular basis regarding School Events through School Messenger Call-Out and Email, Social Media, the TMS WebSite, our Marquee, Newsletters and Flyers.
- ✓ Partner with parents/guardians to develop relevant Professional Development Trainings to educate our faculty and staff on the importance of Family Engagement and how to support student learning in the classroom and at home.
- ✓ Provide information for parents/guardians 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 Community Classes or Support Groups to help further enhance our parent’s various educational levels.
- ✓ Collect feedback from family members in attendance, after academic events in order to respond to parents’ request for additional support for Family Engagement.

2024-2025 District Goals

Increase by at least 2 percentage points the number of students performing at or above proficiency in core content areas in grades 3-11 as measured by the Milestones Assessment Scores.

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

2024-2025 School Goals

- **Provide high quality instruction resulting in a 2% increase in student reading on grade level.**

Grade Level: 6 Focus Areas

Math:

- Computation of rational numbers (decimals and fractions)
- Expressions and Equations
- Ratios and Proportional Relationships
- Geometry and Statistics

Literacy/English Language Arts:

- Reading Fluency and Comprehension.
- Increase Lexile Reading Level.
- Critical Thinking and Responsive writing.

Social Studies:

- Promote literacy through content specific text including Document Based Questions and primary and secondary documents.

Science:

- Engage in the engineering design process.
- Collect and analyze data from experiments.
- Draw conclusions based on qualitative and/or quantitative information.

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

Thomson Middle School will

- Provide a syllabus with core course requirements, grade weights and expectations.
- Provide academic resources, assign homework, and communicate important dates and information on tests and projects through Google Classroom.
- Provide study guides for semester exams in all Core Subjects.
- Invite and encourage parents/guardians to attend academic-focused events to equip parents with educational strategies that can increase student literacy and math computation, modeling these strategies to emphasize conceptual understanding over procedure.
- Contact parents/guardians in a timely manner when concerns arise about their student.
- Respond within 24 hours to parent/guardian calls and emails regarding their student.
- Provide Infinite Campus and Canvas Training.
- Provide consistent grade and attendance updates in Infinite Campus.

Family will

- Review course syllabus to be familiar with course requirements, grade weights, and class expectations.
- Encourage students to use resources, class notes, and basic skills apps provided by the teacher. Assist students in keeping up with important dates, such as homework, tests, and projects.
- Ensure that my child has completed semester exams study guides.
- Attend academic-focused events to learn strategies that will increase student literacy and math computation; strategies covered will emphasize conceptual understanding over procedure.
- Respond to school phone calls and messages relating to my child, as well as signing/returning paperwork and progress reports/report cards.
- Contact the school as needed to ensure student success.
- Attend Infinite Campus and Canvas Training as needed.
- Use Infinite Campus to monitor my child's grades and attendance.

Student will

- Review course syllabus to be familiar with course requirements, grade weights and expectations.
- Use resources, class notes, and basic skills apps provided by the teacher. Keep up with important dates and information on items such as homework, tests, and projects.
- Complete semester exams study guides.
- Inform parents/guardians of academic focused events and attend with family when appropriate.
- Express to teachers when assistance is needed to ensure personal academic success.
- Take information and forms home for parents and return them to school in a timely manner.
- Express to parents/guardians when assistance is needed to ensure personal academic success.
- Inform parents/guardians of Infinite Campus and Canvas Trainings.
- Use Infinite Campus to monitor my grades and attendance.

2024-2025 District Goals

Increase by at least 2 percentage points the number of students performing at or above proficiency in core content areas in grades 3-11 as measured by the Milestones Assessment Scores.

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2023-2024 School Goals

- **Provide high quality instruction resulting in a 2% increase in student reading on grade level.**

Grade Level: 7

Focus Areas

Math:

- Computation of rational numbers to include decimals and fractions.

Literacy/English Language Arts:

- Reading Fluency and Comprehension.
- Critical Thinking.
- Problem Solving Skills.

Social Studies:

- Promote literacy through content specific text including Document Based Questions and primary and secondary documents.

Science:

- Engage in the engineering design process.
- Collect and analyze data from experiments.
- Draw conclusions based on qualitative and/or quantitative information.

Our Compact: *Teachers, Families and Students - Together for Success*

Thomson Middle School will

- Provide a syllabus with core course requirements, grade weights and expectations.
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2024-2025 District Goals

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

2023-2024 School Goals

- **Provide high quality instruction resulting in a 2% increase in student reading on grade level.**

Grade Level: 8

Focus Areas

Math:

- Linear equations within a relevant application.
- Investigating data and statistical reasoning.
- Exploring geometric relationships.

Literacy/English Language Arts:

- Reading Fluency and Comprehension.
- Critical Thinking.
- Problem Solving Skills.

Social Studies:

- Promote literacy through content specific text including Document Based Questions and primary and secondary documents.

Science:

- Engage in the engineering design process.
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