Family Engagement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success
School Year 2026-2027

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Savannah Classical Academy

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WHAT IS A FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY?

A Parent and Family Engagement Policy is a plan that describes how Savannah Classical Academy will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. We value the contributions and involvement of families to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that the school 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 (Section 1116) of the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015.

WHERE IS THE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY AVAILABLE?

The Family Engagement Policy will be distributed to all families at the beginning of the school year through email, student communication folders and posted on the school's web site. Additionally, copies are available in the Family Center, where you may also view it and provide feedback. The Policy will also be posted on the school's website and shared at the Annual Title I meeting.

HOW IS THE POLICY JOINTLY DEVELOPED AND REVISED?

The following actions were taken to involve parents and family members in the joint development and revision of the Family Engagement Policy:

- An invitation to attend the Annual Title I Family Forum was sent to parents in the spring of the previous school year, offering parents/guardians the opportunity to help plan for the upcoming school year.
- A final Family Engagement Policy and School-Family Compact(s), with all of the feedback incorporated, will be posted on school website, presented at fall Annual Title I meeting, sent home with all students to serve as an agreement between the school, parents, and students of the shared responsibility for improving student achievement.

WHAT IS TITLE I?

Savannah Classical Academy 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 and 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 family involvement. All Title I schools must jointly develop a written family engagement policy with all families .

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF TITLE I?

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 policy. The school will provide opportunities for the participation of families with limited English, disabilities, and families of migratory children.

IMPLEMENTATION

The staff at Savannah Classical Academy recognizes that the education of students is a responsibility shared with administrators, teachers, parents and the community. Maximum learning occurs when parents are actively involved and supportive of the education of their children. In an effort to enhance and expand parental involvement at the school level, parents will be invited to attend several meetings throughout the year in order to provide input in the planning, the review and the improvement of school-wide Title I programs.

In order to provide parents/guardians with continuous communication, opportunities for input, and to increase family engagement, the following mandatory Title I family meetings will be held each academic school year:

- **Title I Annual Meeting (Fall)** – Introduces the School/Family Compacts, the Family Engagement Policy, the Title I budget, and the School Improvement Plan. Information about the school's curriculum, assessments, and other important information is also shared at this meeting.
- **Family Forum (Spring)** – Provides parents/guardians with the opportunity to provide input on School Improvement Planning, the Family Engagement Budget, the Family Engagement Policy, the School-Parent/Family Compact, and staff training .

SCHOOL-FAMILY COMPACTS

As part of our family engagement plan, Savannah Classical Academy and our families develop a school-parent/family compact, which is an agreement that explains how parents/families and teachers will work together to make sure students reach grade-level standards. The compacts are reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers during Title I Annual Meeting and from the Annual Family Engagement Survey. The school-parent/family compacts also are reviewed with families during parent-teacher conferences.

GOALS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

SAVANNAH-CHATHAM COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM'S GOALS:

Goal 1: *Early Literacy Readiness*
Outcome: *By 2031, 90% of students in grades K–2 will demonstrate strong foundational literacy skills (phonemic awareness, phonics, and fluency), as measured by Amira.*

Goal 2: *3rd Grade Reading on Grade Level*
Outcome*: By 2031, 95% of 3rd grade students will meet the Georgia Milestones Reading on Grade Level Benchmark.*

Goal 3: *ELA & Math Achievement*
Outcome*: By 2031, districtwide English Language Arts (ELA) and Math achievement will reach a 70.0 weighted Content Mastery score on Georgia Milestones.*

Goal 4: *Student Attendance*
Outcome*: By 2031, 90% of students in grades K–12 will be absent less than 10% of enrolled school days.*

Goal 5: *Student Belonging & Engagement*
Outcome*: By 2031, 90% of students will demonstrate positive belonging and engagement, measured by a combined index of: (1) student survey responses and (2) the inverse of the weighted suspension rate.*

Goal 6: *Future-Ready Milestone Experiences*
Outcome*: By 2031, 90% of graduates will complete at least one future-ready milestone experience (e.g., work-based learning, dual enrollment, apprenticeships, or signature experiences).*

SAVANNAH CLASSICAL ACADEMY'S GOALS:

Goal 1: *For FY27, the percentage of students scoring proficient or higher on associated end of grade state assessments will exceed the local and state percentage.*

Goal 2: *The grade disparity of SCA students with course grade of 85 (or greater) in state assessed courses with an EOG score below level 3 will not exceed 5%.*

Goal 3: *60% of students in grade 3rd through 5th will have a 5% increase in writing and reading readiness for the next grade level.*

Goal 4: *The percent of students participating in more than one fine arts class, club, or extracurricular activity will increase 10% from FY26.*

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Savannah Classical Academy believes that family engagement includes regular, two-way, and meaningful communication regarding student learning and other school activities. This includes ensuring that:

- That parents/families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- That parents/families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- That parents/families 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.

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

HOURS: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Come visit the Family Resource Center to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at

home with your child. Computers are available for parents to log into PowerSchool/Parent Access and explore educational resources.

If you need support, please reach out to our Family and Community Resource Specialist at 1-912-395-4044.

2026-2027 FAMILY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

The following events will be held to build the capacity for strong family engagement to support a partnership between the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. All meetings for parents and family members will be held at Savannah Classical Academy in the dining hall or conference room. Dates are subject to change.

- ***Open House (July)***
- ***Title I Annual Meeting – (August 27, 2026)***
  We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements. Invitations will be emailed and posted in the school newsletter, social media, and local media.
- ***Spartan Club Meetings (Monthly at 5:15 p.m.; see the Blackbaud calendar for specific dates)***
- ***International Night (October)***
- ***Parent Workshops (November and March)***
- ***Knowledge and Noodles (March)***
- ***Title I Annual Family Forum – Late February/Early March***
  Provides an opportunity for parents/family members to participate in discussions with the principal and staff regarding the school improvement plan, family engagement policy, school-parent/family compacts, and the family engagement budget.
- ***GMAS/Curriculum Night (April)***

BUILDING THE FOUNDATION

Savannah Classical Academy will take the following measures to promote and support parents/families as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will:

- Communicate effectively by ensuring that information related to academic standards/assessments, events, etc. is published in a language and format accessible to parents and is communicated in multiple ways.
- Offer training for parents and family members to help further enhance their various educational levels.
- Partner with early childhood programs, feeder schools, college and career ready resources, or other programs to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitions.
- Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents/guardians at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- Collaborate with Community Partners to provide information and introduce resources to benefit families.
- Based on parent/guardian feedback, provide staff training to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement with reading and math activities for our students outside of the classroom.
- Collect feedback from parents and family members at all events, place input cards around the building and post a suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT STANDARDS

Savannah Classical Academy 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

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Savannah Classical Academy does not currently have a School Council or PTA. The Spartan Club serves as a parent organization that provides opportunities for family collaboration and engagement. This organization meets monthly to discuss various topics from teacher/staff incentives, school store for students and electing officials for the governing board for the organization. The Spartan Club promotes the collaboration and engagement of families and educators at Savannah Classical Academy Charter School. Some of the activities we partner with the school are spirit days, school dances, and the school store when students turn in virtue tickets for great prizes.

Savannah Classical Academy Spartan Club Board Members are:

Barry Lollis-CEO

Ali Smith- Communications & Parent Relations Director

Kelly Hamilton- Fundraising & Events Director

Jae Harrison- Legal & Technology Director

Thiesha Bades- Membership & Volunteer Engagement Director

Lakesha Green- Virtue Store Operations Director

Deborah Griffin- Spirit Day Treat Director

Taura Horn- Finance & Accounting Director

Cindi Siedel- Records & Data Management Director

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

We want to hear from you! If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this policy that you feel is not satisfactory with the 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): _____

Comments:

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