

Atkinson Elementary School



Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2026-2027

Revised: June 1, 2026

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Atkinson Elementary School** receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement plan that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The plan establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

Atkinson Elementary School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116 and 1112(e)(3):

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement plan and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement plan periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement plan available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
- (C) 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
- (D) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 and 1112(e)(3) of the ESSA

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Atkinson Elementary School will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

- *Stakeholder Input Meetings*
- *Parent Surveys*
- *Parent Feedback Forms*
- *Parent and Family Engagement Plan available through request, on the school's website, and in the school lobby*

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Atkinson Elementary School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement plan, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

- *Title I Annual Meeting to inform parents about the school's Title I Program and get feedback concerning the School Compact, Parent and Family Engagement Plan and the School Improvement Plan.*
- *Input forms and pertinent documents were sent via Class DOJO, posted on Facebook, and through the school's website*
- *Distribution of the School and District Parent Engagement Plan in addition to the School/Parent Compact and the School Improvement Plan*
- *Inform parents about the school's curriculum and assessments*
- *Inform parents of any updates and/or upcoming events being hosted at the school*

COMMUNICATIONS

Atkinson Elementary School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- To the extent practicable, information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, in a language the parents can understand.
- Regular communication using electronic platforms such as Remind and/or ClassDoJo.
- Guardians may also contact the school office during work hours to request a meeting regarding your child.

- *Advertise meetings in multiple formats - Class DOJO, Student Newsletter, and on the website*
- *Share policies on school website and Facebook*
- *Schedule sessions at convenient times for parents*
- *Use Social Media platforms to share information and upcoming meetings/activities*
- *Use Grade Level Newsletters to share information and upcoming meetings/activities*

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Atkinson Elementary School will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards. Parents will be provided opportunity for input into the school/parent/student compact and the school family engagement policy during Family Engagement Team meetings and through online surveys.

AES parents, students, and staff worked together to develop and revise the School-Parent Compact. Teachers suggested home learning strategies, and assistance in Math, parents added ideas to make them more specific and discussed wanting more opportunities to meet and students told us what would help them learn. There are multiple opportunities each year for parents to review the Compact and make changes based on parent and student needs.

Updated School Parent Compact <https://bit.ly/3P96afE>

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, **Atkinson Elementary School** will take the following actions to involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent by:

- parent surveys
- input at ongoing stakeholder meetings

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Atkinson Elementary School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- *Satilla Advocacy Center*
- *Unison Behavioral Health*
- *Brantley County 4-H Extension*
- *Red Ribbon Week with local involvement*
- *Family Connections*
- *Donations from local businesses*
- *Open House*
- *BINGO Night*
- *Book Fair*
- *Literacy Night*

We involve a variety of team members in our wrap-around services including school nutrition, Birth to 5/Pre-K programs including Brantley Co. Schools Pre-K and Bright from the Start/Head Start, and whole-child/transition collaboratives including DFACS, Family Connections, local law enforcement/SROs, counselors, social workers, student success coach, teachers/admin, college/career/military representatives, and local community organizations.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Atkinson Elementary School will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of challenging State academic standards
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
- Providing online and in-person assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The State's academic standards for all areas
 - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - The requirements of Title I, Part A
 - How to monitor their child's progress
 - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child
 - The feedback from the parent survey (Spring 2024) indicated parents wanted support in math, reading, school-wide assessments, and social-emotional concerns.

- *Hold Title I Annual Meeting to provide parents with descriptions of curriculum in use at the school, assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet*
- *Parent/Teacher Conferences*
- *School and grade-level newsletters provided to parents on upcoming topics covered, homework help, and suggested websites to help their child prepare for the Georgia Milestones*
- *Helpful links and resources provided on the school website, through the parent portal, and at parent informational meetings*

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Atkinson Elementary School will provide online and in-person training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school by:

Each year the Atkinson Elementary School teachers and staff meet with parent representatives to discuss improvements in school, parent, and community communication and involvement. Also, each year the teachers and staff meet to review the previous year's parent and student surveys seeking ways to improve any deficient areas. Administrators provide articles, websites, and video links throughout the school year to inform staff about the value of parent involvement to build staff capacity.

Atkinson Elementary School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 and 1112(e)(3) as parents may request by:

Parents may request more information, offer creative ideas, or make suggestions by contacting the homeroom teacher via a note sent with students, email, or Class DOJO. They may also contact the school administration by calling the school or through email.

DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

PLAN COMPONENTS

- ☐ Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- ☐ Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- ☐ Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- ☐ Train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents.
- ☐ To maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their child's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.
- ☐ Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent and family engagement
- ☐ Establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- ☐ Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.

Parents are encouraged to become involved in Atkinson Elementary School. Involvement is not limited to the Title I Meetings. We encourage parents to continually seek information and retain open lines of communication with the student's homeroom teachers and staff. This may be done with parent phone calls, emails, weekly newsletters by each grade, the school's website, Facebook, and Class DOJO.

To allow two-way communication between the parents/community and school, social media sites such as Facebook and Class DOJO allow parents to send messages directly to the school administration or homeroom teachers.