**Discovery High School**

**Parent Involvement Policy**

**2016-2017 School Year**



Discovery High School **Titan Up!**

1335 Old Norcross Rd.

Lawrenceville, GA, 30046

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http://www.discoveryhighschool.net/

Revised 09/20/2016

**School Plan for Shared Student Achievement**

 **What is it?** In order to create an equal partnership between the school and parents to improve student academic achievement, the school and parents will jointly create a parental involvement policy. The policy establishes the school’s expectations for parental involvement and outlines how the school will implement various activities to support family engagement and promote student learning.

 **How is it developed and revised?**

Discovery High School invites all parents to attend the Title I Planning Meeting to review and provide input and feedback on the Title I School wide Plan, which includes the Parent Involvement Policy, School-Parent Compact, Calendar of Events and Title I budget. During this meeting, parents are given the opportunity to review school and student data, as well as Annual Title I Parent Survey results to jointly develop these documents. Drafts of documents are available for review and stakeholder input following the Title I Planning Meeting. The Parent Involvement Policy is reviewed and revised at least annually during the Title I Planning Meeting. All feedback forms from the Title I Planning meeting are submitted to the Title I Office for review.

Discovery HS conducts an annual survey to ask parents for their suggestions to improve our parental involvement programs. Parents can also give feedback during parent workshops, parent-teacher conferences and other school events.

 **Who is it for?**

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. Discovery High School will provide as many opportunities as possible for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children. Information will be provided in a family friendly language and format.

 **Where is it available?**

At the beginning of the year, students receive information and documents about our Title I Program. The documentation includes a Title I Parent Handbook (translated in both in English and in Spanish) and a signature page acknowledging receipt of all the documents (Title I Parent Handbook, Parent Involvement Policy, School-Parent Compact, and Calendar of Events). The documents will also be available on the school website and in the Parent Center. New students will receive the Title I documentation upon registration.

 **What is Title I?**

Discovery High School is identified as a Title I school as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards in reinforcing and enhancing 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 parental involvement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with all parents a written parental involvement policy.

**2016-2017 Goals of Gwinnett County Public Schools:**

Language Arts: All students will graduate as analytical readers, writers, and communicators of language.

Math: Students are not only expected to become proficient in appropriate computational skills, but also to be actively involved in constructing and applying mathematical ideas.

Science: Students will develop a strong content understanding in the earth, life, and physical sciences as well as develop problem-solving and critical-thinking skills.

Social Studies: Students will develop a strong understanding of themselves and their role and responsibility in society by discovering the heritage of their nation within a global context.

**2016-2017 Goals of Discovery High School**

Discovery High School will increase the literacy skills of all students in Science and Social Studies as measured by the results of local, district and State assessments.

Discovery High School’s four year cohort graduation rate will increase 5% for the graduating class of 2016.

Discovery High School will decrease by 5% the number of office referrals per teacher as compared to last year.

**Let’s Get Together! - Involvement Matters!**

Discovery High 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:

* **Title I Planning Meeting—August 11, 2016 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM**

Parents have the opportunity to hear Title I information and share in the decision making/revision process for Title I Document and funding.

* **Annual Title I Parent Meeting – September 7, 2016 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM and 5:30 PM to 6:00PM**

An overview of Title I guidelines, purpose, goals and expectations will be presented. The school’s status, parent’s rights, and the Title I parents Center Resources will be shared

* **Parent Workshop: Digital Resources and Building Literacy – September 14, 2016 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM**

Parents have the opportunity to set up an account with eClass to monitor their student's literacy academic progress and progress in other content areas.

* **District Title I Parent Meeting – September 20, 2016 6 PM ISC Cafeteria; September 22, 2016 9 AM Discovery HS; September 23, 2016 1 PM Webinar -** Information session about the district Title I program.
* **School wide Event: Parent-Teacher Conference Night—October 18, 2016 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

Parents are invited to meet with and discuss academic progress and expectations with each of their student’s teachers as well as present questions and concerns in an effort to build parent capacity and monitor student’s academic success.

* **Parent Workshop: Writing for Success on the GCPS Gateway – November 16, 2016 6:00 – 7:30 PM**

Parents will learn how to support their child in writing on the GCPS Gateway by learning about the test, the social studies and science topics on the test, and writing strategies for successful test taking.

* **Parent Workshop: Writing for Success on GA Milestones – January 24, 2017 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM**

Parents will learn how to support their child in writing on the GA Milestones test in social studies, science, math, and language arts

* **Parent Workshop: Math and Science Night - February 1, 2017 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM**

Parents have the opportunity to learn strategies and resources to support their child's progress in math and science.

* **Parent Workshop: Gateway to Graduation – February 22, 2017 6:00 – 7:30 PM**

Parents will have the opportunity to learn strategies and resources to support their child's progress in social studies.

* **Spring Transition Workshop: Rising 9th graders—March 14, 2017 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

Parents of incoming freshmen from will be provided with study skills and literacy strategies to use at home to improve academic success in core content areas.

* **School wide Event: Parent-Teacher Conference Night—March 21, 2017 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

Parents are invited to meet with and discuss academic progress and expectations with each of their student’s teachers as well as present questions and concern in an effort to build parent capacity and monitor student’s academic success.

* **District Title I Parent Meeting – April 11, 2017 9 AM ISC Grayson Room; April 13, 2017 6 PM Moore MS; April 14, 2017 9 AM Webinar –** Parent and community input to revise the district’s Title I Plan

**School – Parent Compacts**

Discovery High School will collaborate with parents to jointly develop a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and explains how the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state’s high standards.

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**This year we will focus on increasing the literacy skills of all students in Science and Social Studies**.

**Parent Center**

**The Parent Center is located in Room # 1.020**

**Hours: Monday-Friday 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM**

Please visit our Parent Center to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child.

A computer is available in the Parent Center for parents to explore the Parent Portal, eCLASS, and other educational resources.

Contact: Phyllis Owen, AP-TI

Phone (678) 226 - 4245

**Parental Involvement**

Discovery High School believes that parents are full partners in their child’s education. Parents play an integral role in assisting with their child’s learning. Parental involvement means active participation in school events. The school may take the following actions to provide parents with support:

* Offer a flexible number of meetings at convenient times
* May provide transportation and/or child care as such services relate to parental involvement
* Provide opportunities for regular meetings requested by parents to participate in two-way communication relating to the education of their child such as parent-teacher conferences and parent workshops. The parent instructional coordinator will provide support to promote effective communication between parents and teachers. Academy counselors and Academy leads will work with parents and students to ensure students are on track to graduate on time. Parents will have the opportunity to attend Parent/Teacher Conferences, Title I Planning Meetings, and participate in other activities that will form a partnership between home and school.

**Discovery High School – Parents as Partners**

Discovery High School 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:

Provide parents with program information, assistance in understanding state and local academic standards and assessments, how to monitor their child’s progress and how to work with educators.

During the Title I Annual Meeting, parents will receive information about the Title I Program and how students will benefit. Parents will also learn about their right to be involved in the educational process of their children.

Curriculum and student assessment information is available from our counselors and on the school’s and GCPS websites. Discovery High School also hosts two Parent-Teacher Conference Nights, during which parents meet with teachers and are able to discuss their student’s progress and ask questions regarding the specific needs of their children.

The GCPS Portal is an online resource, to which parents have access and can monitor their child’s progress. The Title I link on the Discovery High School website also provides information for parents.

Provide materials and training to help parents work with their child to improve their child’s academic achievement.

We will host parent workshops focused on writing in math, science, and social studies. Parents will receive strategies and activities that can be used to support student learning at home. Additionally, a parent training will be offered, during which parents will learn about digital resources. Parents will have access to a computer in the Parent Center to learn how to use the digital resources. Materials will be available for parents to check out to use at home. Parents will be able to request additional support through the Parent Center.

Provide training for teachers and staff on effective communication strategies and how to work with parents as equal partners.

A meeting will be held in the fall semester with teachers to equip them with strategies to communicate effectively with parents. The AP–TI will provide ongoing support to teachers by sharing academic journals and magazine articles about how to create parent partnerships and using effective communication throughout the school year. Parent feedback will be considered when planning for teacher trainings.

Provide parents and students support in transitioning to ninth grade.

A Rising 9th Graders parent workshop will be held, during which parents and students will learn about expectations. Families will be able to take a tour of the school and will receive information from current teachers regarding their expectations and how to prepare for upcoming year.

Communicate with parents in a family friendly format by ensuring Title I documents and other important school information are translated to the extent feasible. We will also provide an interpreter at parent workshops and other schoolwide events to support Non-English speaking parents.

 Provide other reasonable support as requested by parents:

* Arrange school meetings at different times of the day