

HENRY COUNTY SCHOOLS

PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT GUIDEBOOK

2020-2021

*We're ready
to help!*

**YOUR
FAMILY
RESOURCE
CENTER
IS OPEN!**



EXPECT *Exceptional*

AUSTIN ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

100 Austin Road | Stockbridge, GA 30281 | 770.507.5407



FAMILY & STUDENT SUPPORT



AUSTIN ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Ms. Libra L. Brittian , Ed.S., Principal

Mrs. Andrea Perdue, Assistant Principal
Mr. Dwayne Richards, Assistant Principal

October 8, 2020

Dear Parents,

This electronic Parent & Family Engagement Guidebook includes information about our district and school's Title I Program including our **2020-2021 Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan and School-Parent Compact**.

The **Parent and Family Engagement Plan** describes how we will carry out the parent and family engagement requirements to ensure effective involvement to support a partnership among the school, parents, family, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

The **School-Parent Compact** outlines how our parents, family, staff and the students will share the responsibility to improve student academic achievement based on the academic goals of the school.

We encourage you to review the 2020-2021 Title I Parent & Family Engagement Plan and School-Parent Compact with your child/children to ensure that everyone understands their role and expectations.

Please use the link below to acknowledge that you and your child have read, received and agree with the information that is included in these documents. Once signed, *please download this Guidebook and keep for your records.*

PLEASE CLICK [HERE](#) OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN THE ELECTRONIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM



We look forward to our School-Parent Partnership! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Tameca Lewis, your school's Parent Involvement Professional at Tameca.lewis@henry.k12.ga.us

Sincerely,



Libra L. Brittian
Principal

HCS FAMILY & STUDENT SUPPORT | Title I

2020-2021 TITLE I SCHOOLS

School	Principal	Phone #
Austin Road Elementary	Lois Barney	770-389-6556
Austin Road Middle	Libra Brittian	770-507-5407
Cotton Indian Elementary	Lisa Travis	770-474-9983
Eagle's Landing Middle	Dr. Malik Douglas	770-914-8189
EXCEL Academy	Lila Brown	770-957-4101
Fairview Elementary	Dr. Vaneisa Benjamin	770-474-8265
Hampton Elementary	Brian Keefer	770-946-4345
Hampton Middle	Dr. Purvis Jackson	770-707-2130
Hickory Flat Charter Elementary	Dr. Marla Surette	770-898-0107
Locust Grove Elementary	Dr. Attenya Scott	770-957-5416
McDonough High	Antonio Mattox	470-615-3450
McDonough Middle	LaRita Wiggins	470-615-3460
Mt. Carmel Elementary	Andy Pike	770-897-9799
Pate's Creek Elementary	Arthur Blevins	770-389-8819
Pleasant Grove Elementary	Tracie Copper	770-898-0176
Oakland Elementary	Tyrome Grant	770-954-1901
Red Oak Elementary	Dr. Shaakira Akbar	770-389-1464
Smith Barnes Elementary	Dr. Carolyn Flemister-Bell	770-474-4066
Stockbridge Elementary	Jermaine Ausmore, Sr.	770-474-8743
Stockbridge High	Eric Watson	770-474-8747
Stockbridge Middle School	Julissa Forbes	770-474-5710
Tussahaw Elementary	Dr. Jocelyn Lakani-Jones	770-957-0164
Walnut Creek Elementary	Fred Latschar	770-288-8561



HENRY COUNTY SCHOOLS
FAMILY & STUDENT SUPPORT
FEDERAL PROGRAMS

PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

P A R E N T N E W S L E T T E R

2020-2021

Greetings HCS Parents!

We are extremely excited about the opportunity to partner with the parents and families of our 24 Title I Schools in educating their children. Despite the challenges that we have faced this year, we strongly believe in the importance of Family Engagement and will continue our work in unifying our district by fostering strong parent and family relationships. However, we understand that we cannot do this without your help. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide information about the power that parents and families have on the overall success not only of their child, but to the success of the entire district.

Sheryl Matthews, Ed.S.
Parent Engagement Specialist



CORE BELIEFS & COMMITMENTS

1

Core Belief

We believe each student can learn at or above grade level and will have an equal opportunity to do so.

Commitment

Each student will learn at or above grade level and have an equal opportunity to do so.

2

Core Belief

We believe family and community involvement is critical to student success.

Commitment

We will foster connections for families and community to support student learning.

3

Core Belief

We believe all learning environments should be supportive, safe, and secure.

Commitment

All school environments will be supportive, safe, and secure.

4

Core Belief

We believe effective teachers and leaders produce excellent results.

Commitment

We will recruit, support, retain, and recognize results-driven teachers and leaders.

The School-Parent Connection

Parent and Family Engagement is an ongoing process that increases active participation, communication, and collaboration between parents, schools, and communities with the goal of educating the whole child to ensure student achievement and success.

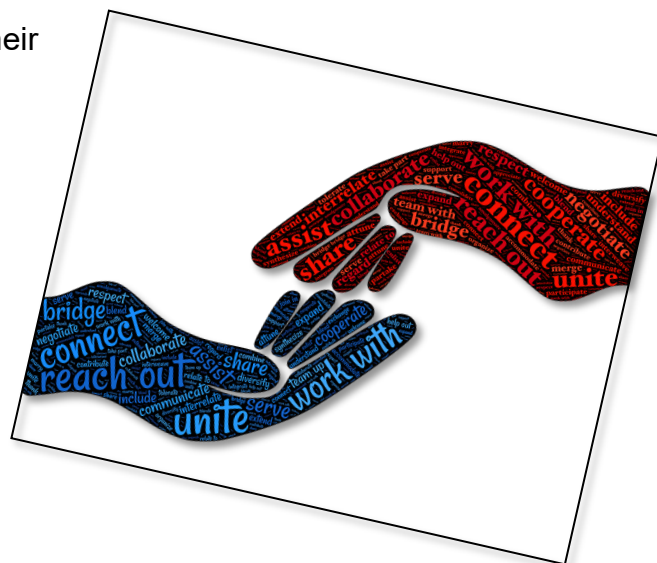
(Family-School Partnership Program, GaDOE)

MAJOR BENEFITS

Research shows that when parents are involved in their children's education, the children are more likely to:

- earn better grades.
- score higher on tests.
- pass their classes.
- attend school regularly.
- have better social skills.
- show improved behavior.
- be more positive in their attitude toward school.
- complete homework assignments.
- graduate and continue their education.

(PTO Today, 2016)



Ways Parents can GET INVOLVED!

Whether you are available on a daily basis or only have a limited amount of time, you can become active in your school's Parent & Family Engagement Program by doing the following:

- ⇒ Learn more about your child's school and the curriculum, special programs, Federally funded programs including Title I and your rights and responsibilities as a parent under these programs.
- ⇒ Attend parent-teacher or student-led conferences, school workshops, meetings to share your opinions regarding your child's learning and progress as well as the school's programs and potential areas of improvement.
- ⇒ Support the academic efforts of your child through goal setting and ongoing progress checks via the Parent Portal.
- ⇒ Make decisions about your child's education and academic program.
- ⇒ Develop relationships with and keep in contact with your child's teacher through telephone, e-mail, or face-to-face conversations.

Parent & Family Engagement On EVERY Level!

Parent and Family Engagement is important at every stage of your child's education!

Elementary School

- Create structured routines (morning, homework, bedtime).
- Establish ongoing communication (email, Class Dojo, Remind, etc.) with teachers and school staff to work as a team to advocate for child.
- Participate in school's academic and extracurricular activities such as Parent Workshops and Family Game Night (in-person or virtual).
- Use dinner time to ask child about school. The focus does not have to be academic.
- Serve as a volunteer on various school committees including PTO (if applicable).
- Keep track of child's academic progress by reviewing Daily Folder and Parent Portal.
- Check out games and manipulatives from Family Resource Center to reinforce skills that child learned at school.

High School

- Utilize the summer months to prepare child for high school. Discuss increased responsibilities, course-load, etc.
- Observe child's morning, homework, and bedtime routines. Intervene as needed.
- Continue to monitor child's social media usage and behavior. Remind them of consequences.
- Introduce yourself to all teachers, counselor and the Graduation Coach (if applicable) via email.
- Encourage child to participate in school clubs or extra-curricular activities. Volunteer your time and/or resources for support.
- Continue to monitor child's academic progress via Parent Portal (Infinite Campus). Encourage them to be responsible for seeking assistance. Intervene as needed.
- Visit school's website and social media accounts to keep up with activities, events, and deadlines.

Middle School

- Reinforce morning, homework and bedtime routines. If child is alone during morning and bedtime routines, consider phone and video check-ins.
- Establish limits with social media. Monitor child's behavior during use.
- Meet with or email all teachers (Open House, Curriculum Night, etc.) and establish communication preferences.
- Participate in school's academic workshops and extra-curricular activities (if applicable).
- Encourage dialogue about school with child by asking open-ended questions.
- Seek guidance from teacher or Parent Involvement Professional on academic resources to help child with challenging assignments.
- Establish a timeline on ways to encourage independent behaviors to prepare for high school.
- Continue to keep track of child's progress in Parent Portal (Infinite Campus). Review grades and progress with child weekly.
- Visit school's website and social media accounts regularly to keep up with school activities and events.

Helping Your Child Succeed Academically...in EVERY Subject!

You don't have to be an expert in any subject to help your child.

- * Attend your school's Curriculum Night or visit the district's website to familiarize yourself with the Henry Teaching & Learning Standards.
- * Set expectations for homework and daily review of notes.
- * Have child explain a concept to you and ask probing questions to determine their comprehension and understanding.
- * Encourage child to have a study buddy that they can contact when they need support.
- * Contact your child's teacher to request resources/websites that can assist you in supporting your child. Don't be afraid to ask the teacher to explain concept to you.
- * Visit your school's Family Resource Center or contact your Parent Involvement Professional (PIP) to request additional support/resources.
- * Avoid statements such as "I am not good at Math so you probably get that from me".
- * If eligible, make arrangements for your child to attend tutoring with the teacher or school's Title I program.



8 Tips to Help Your Child Focus and Stay Engaged During Remote Learning

1. **Set a schedule and keep it** —Establish a consistent night and morning schedule with your remote learner. Use alarms/timers to assist with daily schedule.
2. **Determine how your child likes to learn**—Is your child a visual learner or do they prefer to learn hands-on (kinesthetic)? Find ways to help your child study using their preferred learning style.
3. **Set up a personal learning space for your child** — Consider establishing a specific location where your child will participate in Remote Learning daily. Avoid interrupting them while they are in school. Consider headphones if there are multiple learners in the home.
4. **Utilize Checklists and other Visual Cues**—Create a checklist that your child can utilize daily to stay on task. For younger students, use pictures and other visual cues.
5. **Connect with the school and teachers**—Don't be afraid to reach out to your child's school and teachers for support, guidance, and additional resources.
6. **Stay Positive**—Children often respond to their parent's anxieties. Make every effort to stay calm and positive, even in moments of frustration.



Federally Funded Programs in Henry County Schools

The following federally-funded programs are available in all or select schools in the Henry County Schools district.

- **IDEA**—Exceptional Student Education (Special Education)
- **Title I, Part A** - Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged (*only in our 23 Title I Schools*)
- **Title I, Part A** - Foster Care Program
- **Title I, Part A** - Parent Engagement Program (*only in our 23 Title I Schools*)
- **Title I, Part C** - Education of Migratory Children
- **Title I, Part D** - Programs for Neglected or Delinquent Children
- **Title II, Part A** - Improving Teacher Quality
- **Title III, Part A** - Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient & Immigrant Students
- **Title IV, Part A** - Student Support and Academic Enrichment
- **Title IX, Part A** - McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act



Facts about 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 the 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.

Who is eligible for Title I Services?

The program serves students in elementary, middle and high schools who have demonstrated the need for additional academic assistance. **A parent's financial status does not impact eligibility.** Students are identified using multiple criteria including previous year's tests scores, report cards, and teacher recommendations. A family's income IS NOT considered.

Benefits of Title I

Title I provides schools an opportunity to offer additional support and resources to increase the academic achievement of students. In addition to student support, Title I also provides support for parents to assist their child at home in order to increase student achievement. ALL parents of students who attend a Title I School are encouraged to participate in their school's Parent & Family Engagement Program. Teachers at Title I schools also benefit from additional professional development and instructional resources.

How Does Our School Receive Title I Money?

MYTH—Only low-income students receive Title I Services

FACT—Title I Services are based on academic need, not income!

1. The **Federal Government** provides Title I funding to each state.
2. **State Educational Agencies** send this money to school districts. How much money each district receives is determined by the number of students eligible for free or reduced lunch in the ENTIRE district.
3. **Districts** then allocate Title I funds to schools with higher rates based on the number of eligible students enrolled.
4. Finally, once funds have been released, **Title I schools:**
 - Identify the students at their school who need the most educational assistance based on various academic criteria that school has chosen. Students **DO NOT** have to be from low-income families to receive Title I services.
 - Set goals for improving the skills of all students at their school and determine how to utilize their Title I funds to support those goals.
 - Measure student progress to determine the success of the Title I program for each student.

HCS Federal Programs Staff:

Dr. Sandra Moore Federal Programs Coordinator	sandra.moore@henry.k12.ga.us
Kelly Coffey Title I Budget Facilitator	kelly.coffey@henry.k12.ga.us
Renee Barnes Administrative Assistant	renee.barnes@henry.k12.ga.us
Sheryl Matthews Parent Engagement Specialist	sheryl.matthews@henry.k12.ga.us
Katie Breedlove District Math Instructional Lead Teacher	kathryn.breedlove@henry.k12.ga.us
Vanessa McFadden Title I Inventory/Monitor	vanessa.mcfadden@henry.k12.ga.us
Dr. Lynda Daniel School Improvement Specialist	lynda.daniel@henry.k12.ga.us
Lisa Copeland School Improvement Specialist	lisa.copeland@henry.k12.ga.us
Dr. Marian Tillotson School Improvement Specialist	marian.tillotson@henry.k12.ga.us

Your Input Matters!

Throughout the year, your child's school will invite you to provide feedback and comments regarding various components of their Title I Program. This includes their Schoolwide Plan, the Parent and Family Engagement Plan, School-Parent Compact, as well as the Title I Schoolwide Budget (including 1% Parent and Family Engagement Budget).

Your input is extremely important as we work together to provide a quality education to our students attending one of our 23 Title I Schools.

If you are a parent or family member who would like to provide input, please contact your child's school or the district's Title I Parent Engagement Specialist, Sheryl Matthews, at sheryl.matthews@henry.k12.ga.us.

PARENT'S RIGHT TO KNOW

You as a parent have the right to request the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals, including:

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.

Family Resource Centers

A Family Resource Center is located in each of our 24 Title I Schools. ALL parents of children who attend a Title I school are welcome to visit their Resource Center. The Family Resource Center is designated solely for parents to receive support, training, and access to resources that will assist them in supporting their child. Parents of children who attend a Title I School are always welcome to check out resources, get information from workshops that they may have missed, and even access their child's grades via the Parent Portal. Each school has a full-time Parent Involvement Professional on staff whose primary role is to assist parents. There is no cost involved in checking out instructional support materials. All centers are open during school hours and after hours by appointment.

HENRY COUNTY SCHOOLS

2020-2021 TITLE I SCHOOLS

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Austin Road Elementary	Lois Barney	770-389-6556
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Stockbridge High	Eric Watson	770-474-8747
Stockbridge Middle School	Julissa Forbes	770-474-5710
Tussahaw Elementary	Dr. Jocelyn Lakani-Jones	770-957-0164
Walnut Creek Elementary	Fred Latschar	770-288-8561
Wesley Lakes Elementary	Jodye Rowe-Callaway	770-914-1889

EXPECT *Exceptional*

Parent and Family Engagement Plan

FINAL —September 18, 2020

What is Family and Parent Engagement?

Henry County believes that parent involvement means the participation of parents in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

1. That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
2. That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
3. That 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.
4. The carrying out of other activities, such as those prescribed in Section 1116 of the ESSA.
5. The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESEA.



About our District's Parent & Family Engagement Plan

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Henry County Schools has developed this parent and family engagement plan that establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's 24 Title I schools. This plan will describe our commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity in its Title I schools to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district and student academic achievement goals.

When schools, families, and communities work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer and enjoy school more. Title I, Part A provides for substantive parental involvement at every level of the program, such as in the development and implementation of the district and school plan, and in carrying out the district and school improvement provisions. Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools and school systems to involve parents in their children's education. Consistent with Section 1116, Henry County Schools will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of Section 1118 (b) and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESSA.

EXPECT *Exceptional*

Jointly Developed Plan

For the 2020-2021 school year, all Title I parents were invited to participate and provide feedback on the district's and school's Plans during their school's Spring Input Meeting. Parents were invited to all meetings through flyers, emails, text messages, and postings on each school's website as well as their social media platforms. During these meeting, parents received information about the district's Strategic Priorities as well as how the district allocated its Title I funds including the 1% Parent Involvement budget.

Parents who could not attend the meeting were encouraged to submit comments and feedback regarding the Parent & Family Engagement Plan, Strategic Priorities, and Budget at any time on the school's website or to contact the school's Parent Involvement Professional. All feedback received by May 29, 2020 in reference to the district's Parent & Family Engagement Plan was considered. Upon final revision, this plan was incorporated into the CLIP and submitted to the state.

This plan is posted on our district's Title I page under Parent & Family Engagement. It will also be included in every Title I School's Parent & Family Engagement Guidebook.

District Support to Strengthen Our Schools

The district's Title I Parent Engagement Specialist will provide assistance and support to all 24 Title I schools to ensure family engagement requirements are being satisfied and that family engagement strategies and activities are being implemented. Title I schools will receive notifications and resources from the district's Parent Engagement Specialist to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the Title I Parent Engagement Specialist will hold monthly meetings and trainings with its Title I schools' Parent Involvement Professionals and other appointed representatives to review family engagement plans and activities as well as provide guidance with the assistance of parents for Title I Schools to build staff capacity in Parent and Family Engagement.

Additionally, the district's Title I Office will host Annual Title I Compliance Training in July for all Title I Principals , Title I Teachers ,Tutors and Title I Parent Involvement Professionals to review parent and family engagement compliance requirements and activities.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

Henry County Schools will distributed 100% of the total reserved amount of Title I Parent & Family Engagement funds that it received for the 2020-2021 year directly to all of its Title I schools to support their local-level Parent & Family Engagement programs and activities.

The district will provide clear guidance and communication to assist each Title I school in developing an adequate parental involvement budget that supports programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school. Each Title I school will host a Parent Input Meeting for parents to provide suggestions how these parental involvement funds will be used at the school-level.

Parent feedback and meeting minutes from these meetings will be reviewed by the school to determine areas of need for the 2020-2021 school year and consider changes to the parental involvement budget.

Building Capacity—Henry County’s Mission IS Possible!

Henry County and the Title I Office will take the following measures in order to build the schools’ and parents’ capacity for strong parent and family engagement that will improve student academic achievement through the following districtwide activities and strategies:



SUPPORT FOR PARENTS

- ★ Sharing vital information to parents of Title I schools on the Georgia Standards of Excellence, state and local academic assessments including the Georgia Milestones, as well as the required assessments for students including assessments for parents of children receiving ESOL services. The dates and locations for these workshops will be posted on the district’s Title I webpage as well as the websites of our Title I Schools. Parents will also receive workshop notifications via flyers, email, REMIND, and Infinite Campus.
- ★ The district’s Title I Parental Involvement webpage as well as each Title I school’s webpage will contain additional information such as parent guides and effective strategies that will assist parents in helping their children at home.
- ★ Copies of these materials will be made available by request for parents who may have limited Internet access as well as those in need of translated versions.
- ★ Collaborating with our local Pre-K, Early Reading & Literacy Programs, as well as participating Technical & Post-Secondary Schools to share school information that will help prepare parents and their child(ren) for transitions into elementary, middle, high, and beyond.
- ★ Ensuring that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is available to all parents in an understandable and uniform format, such as flyers, newsletters and calendars and posted on the district and/or school website. Parent notifications and resources will be sent home in parents’ native language, where applicable, and interpreters will be available at parent events and meetings. Information posted on the district Web site will be translated to the extent practicable. The district will also utilize school telephone systems, school websites, local news media, and other school message systems to post information for parents.

SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL STAFF

- ★ Providing ongoing support to Parent Involvement Professionals (PIPs) and Title I Principals in the efforts to communicate and build partnerships with parents. The district’s Parent Engagement Specialist will also train appropriate school staff and faculty on creating a welcoming environment and improving school-parent communication.
- ★ Developing partnerships with community members and business leaders to serve as school and district level speakers in order to build staff capacity. The district will encourage collaboration between all stakeholders by posting meeting information on the district’s website and share with our 24 Title I Schools.

Opportunities for Meaningful Parent Consultation

All parents and families of students attending a Title I school are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described below. Input and suggestions from families are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year.

School & District Level Parent Input Meetings & Panel Discussions

Ongoing, throughout the year

Henry County encourages all parents of children attending a Title I School to participate in their school's Parent Input Meetings and other Panel Discussions. Each Title I School will send home information regarding the date and time of these meetings. Information will also be posted on each school's webpage as well as the district's Title I webpage.

Title I Parent & Family Engagement Input Meeting

April 2021—May 2021

All Title I Families are invited to provide input via online surveys on the district's Title I Consolidated LEA School Improvement Plan, the Title I Parent & Family Engagement Plan, and District's Parental Involvement Budget. Notices regarding these input opportunities will be provided to parents in advance using multiple communication methods.

Parent & Family Engagement Annual Evaluation

In the Spring, Henry County Schools will evaluate the content and effectiveness of this Plan for Shared Student Success and the various parental involvement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I schools through an annual Parent & Community Stakeholder Input Meeting. Our goal is to work with parents and family members to identify barriers to greater parent participation in our Title I schools. We plan to identify specific needs that parents and family members have with supporting the achievement of their children and communicating to faculty and staff. These surveys and feedback forms will also be posted on the district and school websites for parents who are unable to attend.

In addition to the annual survey, each Title I school will also have a Spring Parent Input Meeting to discuss the school's Title I Programs and conduct their own school level evaluation. The results from district forums, Parent Input Meetings and Annual surveys will be used to improve the district and school level Parent & Family Engagement program.

ACCESSIBILITY

In carrying out the parental involvement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESEA, the District's Title I Parent Engagement Specialist will communicate and collaborate with the Student Services office and Title III Coordinator to ensure full opportunities for participation including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand to parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and families of homeless and migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.



Informing and Empowering Parents

All families of children attending a Title I school are invited to attend Title I meetings and events at the school and district level to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our student academic achievement goals. The following is a list of sample workshops that will be offered at your child's school or on the district level. For the 2020-2021 meetings will be held in person as well as virtually.

- **Open House and Curriculum Nights**—discover and get connected with the various school and district level resources that are available to parents in Henry County Schools.
- **Principal Chats and "POP-In with the PIP"**—come talk to your school's principal or Parent Involvement Professional about specific topics or get information from a meeting that you missed.
- **Georgia Milestones Sessions**—families can hear from educators and each other about ways that they can prepare their child for the state assessments.
- **Literacy Workshops for Parents**—learn ways to get struggling or reluctant readers back on track.
- **Family Game Nights (Math & Science)**—participate in content area workshops to learn ways to encourage learning at home while still having fun.
- **"Bring Your Parent to School" Day (Middle Schools)**—come spend the day with your child to gain more insight on their school day and how you can extend their learning at home.
- **Calling all High School Parents!** - attend various forums on specific topics that will assist you in supporting your high school student and their post secondary plans.
- **District Family Connections Workshops and Live Parent Sessions**— Open to all HCS families to learn more about various topics to support the social, emotional and academic needs of their students such as *Tips for Remote Learning* and *Accessing the Infinite Campus Parent Portal*.

Adoption

This district level Parent and Family Engagement Plan has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of parents, school, and district personnel at the annual Parent & Community Stakeholder Input Meeting as well as online comments received by parents via the district's website.

This plan as adopted by Henry County Schools on September 14, 2020 and will be in effect for the 2020-2021 academic school year. The school district will distribute this plan in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 30, 2020

Contact information

For additional information regarding this plan or Title I Parent and Family Engagement, please contact:

Sheryl Matthews, Ed.S.

Title I Parental Engagement Specialist

sheryl.matthews@henry.k12.ga.us

770-898-2792 ext 131



AUSTIN ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Ms. Libra. L. Brittian , Ed.S., Principal

Mrs. Andrea Perdue, Assistant Principal
Mr. Dwayne Richards, Assistant Principal

August 1, 2020

Greetings ARMS Parents & Family,
Welcome to a wonderful year at Austin Road Middle School! I am Tameca Lewis the Parent Involvement Professional (PIP). My role is to ensure that parents and families are provided with academic support and community resources that will assist in helping each scholar to thrive.

At ARMS, we cultivate an environment for creativity, innovation, and leadership where your scholar will exceed expectations everyday! We will help cultivate the same success for each parent and family member in the Parent & Family Resource Center. The resource center has valuable parenting and volunteer information, monthly event calendars, parent academic brochures, and Parent Lending Library (books and manipulatives). There are computers available where parents & families can access the Infinite Campus Parent Portal to view your scholar's grades online and career search. Also, upcoming information on parent workshops and meetings will be posted in the resource center and on the Parent Involvement webpage. Contact me anytime, and I would love to share some resources with you.

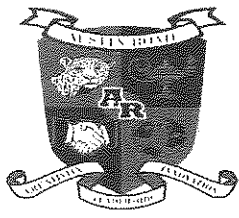
Talk to you soon,

Tameca Lewis

Tameca Lewis-Parent Involvement Professional (PIP)
Parent & Family Resource Center
Tameca.Lewis@henry.k12.ga.us

• 100 Austin Road • Stockbridge, GA 30281 • (770) 507-5407 main • (770) 507-5413 fax
• <https://schoolwires.henry.k12.ga.us/domain/2504>

“EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS EVERY DAY”



AUSTIN ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Ms. Libra L. Brittian , Ed.S., Principal

Mrs. Andrea Perdue, Assistant Principal

Mr. Dwayne Richards, Assistant Principal

RIGHT TO KNOW PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS AND PARAPROFESSIONALS

August 17, 2020

Dear Parents & Guardians,

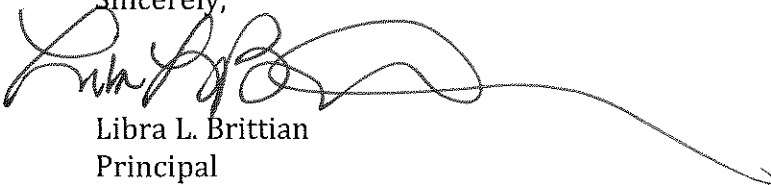
In compliance with the requirements of the Every Students Succeeds Act, Austin Road Middle would like to inform you that you may request information about the professional qualifications of your student's teacher(s) and/ or paraprofessional(s). The following information may be requested:

- 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 the Principal, Libra L. Brittian, at 770-507-5407.

Sincerely,



Libra L. Brittian
Principal

**Austin Road Middle School
Parent and Family Engagement Plan
For Shared Scholar Success
2020-2021**

**Final
September 8, 2020**

**Austin Road Middle School
Libra L. Brittan, Principal
100 Austin Road
Stockbridge, GA 30281
(770) 507-5407**

www.henry.k12.ga.us/arm

*Si necesita este documento en español, por favor
póngase en contacto con*

Tameca.Lewis@henry.k12.ga.us

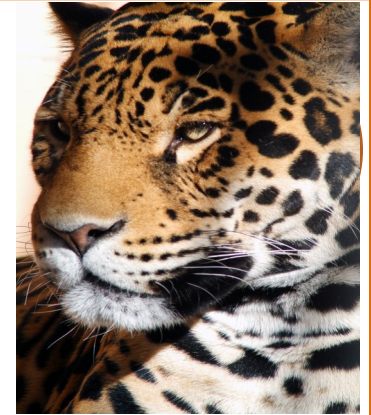
**We are ARMStrong
Courageous Courage**

What is Title I?

Austin Road Middle 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 in order to reinforce and enhance efforts to improve teaching and learning for scholars. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving scholar achievement and include strategies to support parental involvement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with all parents and family members a written parent and family engagement plan.



School Plan for Shared Scholar Achievement



What is it?

This is a plan that describes how Austin Road Middle School (ARMS) will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support scholar learning. In an effort to bridge the gap between our parents and the school, ARMS places a significant amount of emphasis on providing parent support, while encouraging consistent involvement in their child's academic and extracurricular endeavors. All stakeholder activities and events are designed to promote and increase scholar achievement while strengthening and improving our overall school as a community of life long learners.

How is it revised?

Austin Road Middle School conducted a Title I Parent Input Meeting in the spring of 2020 and fall of 2020. During these meetings, parents and family members had the opportunity to revise and review this parent and family engagement plan, the school-parent compact, the school-wide plan and the family engagement budget. Parents also provided ideas on building school staff capacity. Feedback from parent input surveys & evaluations are solicited during the school year regarding this plan. ARMS welcomes and strongly encourages parent input and feedback throughout the school year. Feedback is also encouraged at every parent and family engagement meeting and activity. Any unsatisfactory comments by parents will be shared with the District.

Who is it for?

All scholars of ARMS benefit from the Title I, Part A program, and their families are encouraged to fully participate in the opportunities outlined in this plan. Austin Road Middle School will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available?

The 2020-2021 plan will be distributed to parents following the Annual Title I Meeting before November 1, 2020. It will be sent home with scholars, posted on the school website (www.henry.k12.ga.us/arm) and a hard copy will be provided to all visitors within the Title I Parent & Family Resource Center Rm. 801. Visitors can also access this document in our main office.

2020-2021 Strategic Goals

1. Advance PreK-12 learning opportunities for all students
2. Advance effective school leadership and classroom instruction.
3. Advance connectivity to value and engage all students, employees, families, and partners in our community.
4. Advance student and employee, health, wellness, and support structures.
5. Advance a high performing operational culture.

2020-2021 School Improvement Goals

Goal 1 -By the end of the 2020-2021 school year, ARMS will increase the percentage of scholars reading on or above grade level by 5% in Grades 6 – 8 based on identified Lexile targets (6th grade – 925L, 7th grade 970L, 8th grade 1010L)

*Grade 6 scholars reading at or above grade level for SY20 – 69%

*Grade 7 scholars reading at or above grade level for SY20 – 75%

* Grade 8 scholars reading at or above grade level of SY20 – 80%

Goal 2 - ARMS will increase the number of scholars in Grades 6-8 performing at Proficient or above in mathematics by a minimum of 5% on the 2021 Georgia Milestones End-of Grade Assessment.

*Grade 6 Math from 18% to 23%; Grade 7 Math from 28% to 33%; Grade 8 Math from 8% to 25%

Goal 3 - ARMS will increase the number of scholars in Grades 6-8 performing at Proficient or above in Science, ELA, and Social Studies by a minimum of 5% on the 2021 Georgia Milestones End-of Grade Assessment.

*Grade 6 ELA from 36% to 41%; Grade 7 ELA from 28% to 33%; Grade 8 ELA from 47% to 52%

*Grade 8 Science from 20% to 25%

*Grade 8 Social Studies from 40% to 45%

We will exceed our goals by:

Ongoing emphasis of vocabulary acquisition and development

Ongoing reinforcement of basic math skills and increased instructional rigor

Providing additional math and reading support through Title I program

Assessing scholar learning and providing descriptive feedback on an ongoing basis

Infusion of 1:1 technology initiative to supplement instruction

School wide Instructional Focus and tutoring

Emphasis on personalized learning through the blended learning model and other modes of instruction

Ongoing PBIS and Habits of Mind training for all stakeholders

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Austin Road Middle School and our families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and scholars will develop. Parents and teachers will collaborate to ensure that all scholars meet and exceed grade-level academic requirements in all content areas. Overall literacy performance standards will improve as well. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually. During meetings and/or events, feedback will be garnered from parents, scholars and teachers throughout the school year. The school-parent compacts are available for parents online and through our Parent Resource Center.

Let's Get Together!

In an effort to increase overall scholar achievement, Austin Road Middle School will host the following events to further encourage parent involvement and nurture a supportive and engaging school community:

Coffee & Conversation Parent University - October 2020

Administrators, counselors and teachers meet with ARMS parents.

Annual Title I Meeting - October 2020

Opportunity to learn about Title I, review budget, and provide feedback.

A Day In Your Scholar's Shoes Event - November 2020

Parents will experience a school day with their scholar by attending classes and lunch.

Grandparents Day Breakfast - December 2020

ARMS will celebrate our grandparents for being essential in scholar learning and academic success.

Math Night - January 2021

Workshops geared to support math comprehension and achievement through family fun experiences.

ELA Enrichment - January 2021

Workshops geared to support ELA comprehension and achievement through family fun experiences.

Love Your School Night - February 2021

ARMS scholars showcase academic achievements and talents. Community members and vendors are also featured.

Georgia Milestones Workshop - March 2021

Administrators and teachers will give information and tips on enhancing scholar testing performance. Information on interpreting test results will also be discussed.

Parent Input Meeting (Spring) - April 2021

Parents and community members will have the opportunity to provide input on the Parent Engagement Plan, School-Parent Compact, Title I budgets, and Building Staff Capacity.

Information about these events will also be posted online.

Building School-Staff Capacity

Each Title I school shall 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. After a review of our parent survey, Austin Road Middle School Staff will receive ongoing training and support on the following topics:

- ◇ Homework Expectations for Parents
- ◇ Communicating with Parents
- ◇ Communicating to EL Parents
- ◇ Tips on Providing Positive Feedback
- ◇ Removing the Jargon
- ◇ Ways to Involve Parent in Your Classroom
- ◇ How to Create a Welcoming Environment for Parents

Parent & Family Engagement

Austin Road Middle School believes that parent and family engagement means the participation of parents in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving scholar academic learning and other school activities including:

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- That 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;
- That parents are committed to the mission, vision and beliefs of the school, and are willing to support all faculty and staff members of ARMS

Austin Road Middle Shall:

Austin Road Middle will take the following measures to promote and support parents and family members as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our goals. We will:

- * Provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards and state scholar academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor their child's progress and work with educators to improve overall scholar achievement
- * Provide resources, materials and training to help parents work with their scholars to improve overall achievement; such trainings include literacy strategies to be utilized at home and also using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement
- * Continue to communicate and create opportunities that endorse stakeholder participation and buy-in; all parties play a significant roll in scholar achievement
- * To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with the instructional calendar, as well as develop other opportunities, and activities, to support scholar academic success; utilize the Parent & Family Resource Center and its resources to involve parents more in the middle school education of their scholar
- * Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is provided to all parents of Austin Road Middle School scholars; disseminate information through multiple means of communication; provide information in language(s) that parents are able to clearly understand and articulate
- * Share information regarding ways parents can monitor their scholar's progress and work with educators to improve scholar achievement
- * Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities
- * Collect feedback from parents during scheduled events; provide surveys and/or place feedback cards in the main office; give parents an option to provide suggestions online as well, through the school's website
- * Encourage Partners in Education to assist with promoting and supporting planned activities and events
- * Maintain a Family Resource Center for parents and guardians to access technology, materials, other resources and information for both personal and scholar academic support

#iAmARMS

ARMS School Council

Austin Road Middle invites all parents to join the school council to share ideas and ways to build partnerships with school families, the community, ARMS administration, and the school board. The team will meet once monthly, but parents can also submit their ideas or suggestions during all activities and meetings as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about ARMS School Council, please contact our Parent Involvement Professional, Tameca Lewis at (770) 507-5407 or email Tameca.Lewis@henry.k12.ga.us

Parent Involvement Standards

Austin Road Middle and our parents have adopted the National PTO Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, scholars, and the community. These standards are –

- * Welcoming All Families
- * Communicating Effectively
- * Supporting Scholar Success
- * Speaking Up for Every Child
- * Sharing Power
- * Collaborating with Community

ARMS Parent Engagement Program

- ◇ Yes, I am interested in joining the team as a parent volunteer!
- ◇ Yes, please contact me so I can learn more ARMS School Council
- ◇ Yes, you may contact me about future ARMS Parent Engagement Meetings, Updates and events.

Name: _____
Role: _____
Scholar's Name and Grade: _____
E-mail Address: _____
Address: _____
Best Contact Time: _____



Austin Road Middle School

Exceeding Expectations Every Day!

Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this plan that you feel is not satisfactory with the scholars' and the school's 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) _____

What is a School-Parent Compact?

Austin Road Middle School's Parent Compact outlines how parents, teachers and scholars will share the responsibility for improved academic success. This compact provides strategies to help connect learning at school and at home.

Effective Components:

- Link to academic achievement goals
- Focus on scholar learning skills
- Describe how teachers will help scholars develop those skills using high-quality instruction
- Share strategies that staff, parents, and scholars can use
- Explain how teachers and parents will communicate about scholar progress
- Describe opportunities for parents to volunteer, observe, and participate in the classroom

Jointly Developed

The parents, scholars and staff at Austin Road Middle School worked collaboratively to develop the school-parent compact. The 2020-2021 compact includes information obtained from parent surveys, parent input meetings, and faculty/staff meetings. Meetings are held each year to review and revise the compact based on scholar academic needs and the school's academic and instructional response to improve achievement goals.

Parents are welcomed to provide input at any time!

All feedback will be collected and reviewed at the annual revision meeting with parents. Please call the school at 770-507-5407 or visit the school website at www.henry.k12.ga.us/arm for more information on the school parent compact.



Austin Road Middle School

Exceeding Expectations Everyday

Building Partnerships

Austin Road Middle School encourages community engagement by offering a series of events and programs designed to continually bridge the communication gap between both the school and the community at large. Such events include but are not limited to:

- Open House, PTO meetings, School Council, Parent volunteer opportunities, ARMS Administrators Open Door Policy, etc.
- Parent – Teacher conferences to discuss scholar's progress
- Coffee & Conversations w/ARMS teachers and the administrative staff
- Teacher websites, texts, phone calls, email, Infinite Campus, etc.
- Parent & Family Resource Center–(M-F, 9:00 a.m.– 3:30 p.m.)
- A Day in Your Scholar's Shoes - parents shadow their scholar for the academic day at ARMS

Communication About Scholar Learning

Austin Road Middle is committed to frequent communication with families regarding scholars' academic/behavioral progress. Some of the ways you can expect to receive such communication includes but is not limited to:

- Open House and other scheduled school events
- Parent/Teacher/Scholar conferences
- Infinite Campus, Remind, teacher web pages, email, etc.
- Infinite Campus (IC) Messenger
- Progress reports, grade reports, and personal phone calls
- Parent & Family Resource Center Mon-Fri, 9:00am-3:30pm

Questions about your child's progress?

Contact your child's teacher (s) by phone (770) 507-5407 or email. Faculty and staff email addresses are on the school website www.henry.k12.ga.us/arm

Family Engagement Opportunities

If you would like to volunteer, engage in ARMS activities or learn more about these opportunities, please contact Mrs. Tameca Lewis, ARMS Parent Involvement Professional at Tameca.Lewis@henry.k12.ga.us or (770) 507-5407 or visit the Parent & Family Resource Center in Rm. 801.

- ARMS Parent University
- Reading Bowl & Book Talks
- Classroom Observations
- Awards Ceremonies
- School Board Meetings
- ARMS Volunteer Opportunities
- Mentoring
- PTO/School Council Meetings
- Coffee & Conversations

Title I School-Parent Compact for Scholar Achievement

2020-2021

Final Copy

September 8, 2020

We are ARMStrong
Courageous Courage



Austin Road Middle School

100 Austin Road
Stockbridge, GA 30281
770-507-5407
www.henry.k12.ga.us/arm

Libra L. Brittian – Principal

Our Goals for Scholar Success

2020-2021 Strategic Actions

1. Advance PreK-12 learning opportunities for all students
2. Advance effective school leadership and classroom instruction.
3. Advance connectivity to value and engage all students, employees, families, and partners in our community.
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**We are ARMStrong
Courageous Courage**



School - Parents - Scholars - "The Triad of Learning & Success"

As a school, we will...

- * Give scholars more voice and choice over their learning experience, in all content areas and create tasks that promote school-wide personalized learning objectives
- * Apply the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) in all content areas and provide access to the curriculum via the collaborative delivery model of ESE scholars
- * Provide intensive supportive instruction in the areas of math and reading through Instructional Focus classes and Connections reading courses for identified scholars
- * Implement 1:1 training for all stakeholders to effectively assist with school-wide technology instruction
- * Provide additional academic support by hiring Title I certified instructional personnel
- * Conduct parent-teacher conferences and scholar led conferences (SLC). The SLC initiative will allow the scholar to assume agency of their progress and learning and articulate this information during these conferences.

As parents, we will...

Austin Road Middle parents will provide input to develop and support scholars success in all content areas. The parents agree to the following responsibilities:

- * Be supportive and constantly motivate my child; support school-wide Habits of Mind initiatives and employ a growth mindset towards the academic and social challenges of middle school
- * Incorporate consistent weekly reading times and conduct discussions to gauge my child's understanding; we will select an appropriate and challenging chapter book together
- * Stay in constant contact with my child's teacher (s) about his/her academic progress via:
 - * Infinite Campus –Parent Portal
 - * Emails to teachers as needed
 - * Phone calls/text messages
 - * Conferences (as needed)
 - * Signed progress reports
- * Talk with my child on a daily basis about homework assignments and school activities
- * Become an active part of the ARMS community, by attending family nights, parent workshops, PTO meetings, and volunteer my time when possible
- * Promote school-wide successes to the community-at-large

As Austin Road Middle scholars will...

Austin Road Middle scholars joined faculty, staff and parents to develop ideas about how they can succeed in school and reach their full potential in all content areas. The scholars agree to:

- * Assume responsibility for their learning and routinely track/monitor their own progress
- * Write down assignments, do homework everyday, and submit assignments when due
- * Actively engage in each class, contributing positively to the learning environment
- * Possess a positive attitude and work through challenging tasks/assignments with grit and determination; ARMS scholars will not quit
- * Speak up and ask for help in any class when something is not understood
- * ARMS scholars will support the school-wide creed by being accountable, respectful, motivated, and conducting themselves in a scholarly way at all times
- * ARMS scholars will take pride in their school and encourage their peers and teachers



HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

— EXPECT *Exceptional* —



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annette.edwards@henry.k12.ga.us
District 5

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holly.cobb@henry.k12.ga.us
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Josh Hinton
joshua.hinton@henry.k12.ga.us
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maryelizabeth.davis@henry.k12.ga.us
Superintendent

Sophe Pope
sophe.pope@henry.k12.ga.us
District 4

Dr. Pam Nutt
pam.nutt@henry.k12.ga.us
District 1

Henry County Schools 2020-2021 Calendar

July 2020					August 2020					September 2020				
M	Tu	W	Th	F	M	Tu	W	Th	F	M	Tu	W	Th	F
		1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31	31					28	29	30		

October 2020					November 2020					December 2020				
M	Tu	W	Th	F	M	Tu	W	Th	F	M	Tu	W	Th	F
			1	2	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	30					28	29	30	31	

January 2021					February 2021					March 2021				
M	Tu	W	Th	F	M	Tu	W	Th	F	M	Tu	W	Th	F
				1	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29						29	30	31		

April 2021					May 2021					June 2021				
M	Tu	W	Th	F	M	Tu	W	Th	F	M	Tu	W	Th	F
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31					28	29	30		

* ES & Seniors Only

- Early Release Dates
- Entire District Closed
- Students & Teachers Out
- Students Out
- First Day of Semester
- Report Cards

IMPORTANT DATES

- 1st Day of School
Aug. 17
- Labor Day
Sept. 7
- Fall Break
Sept. 21-25
- Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 23-27
- Semester Break
Dec. 21 - Jan. 5
- 2nd Semester Starts
Jan. 6
- MLK Day
Jan. 18
- Presidents Day
Feb. 15
- Winter Break
Feb. 16-19
- Spring Break
Apr. 5-9
- Last Day of School
May 26

IMPORTANT STAFF DATES

- District-Based Professional Learning Days
July 29, Nov. 3, Jan. 5
- School-Based Professional Learning Days
July 27-28, July 30-31, Jan. 4, May 27-28

The Henry County Board of Education has authorized the publication of this handbook in accordance with School Board policies and applicable laws. It contains important information for parents, students, school personnel, visitors, and residents. **Have a great school year!**