

Mount Zion Middle School
Parent and Family Engagement Plan



2025-2026

Draft Copy:
9/18/2025
Final Copy:
10/7/2025

Mount Zion Middle School
Parent and Family Engagement
Policy and Plan for Shared
Student Success

2025-2026 School Year

Mount Zion Middle School
132 Eagle Drive
Carrollton, Georgia 30117
mzm.carrollcountyschools.com

Plan Revised September 18, 2025

What is Title I?

Mount Zion 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 the challenging State academic standards to improve teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support family engagement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with parents and family the Title I Family Engagement Plan.

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it?

This is a plan that describes how Mount Zion Middle will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Mount Zion Middle values the contributions and involvement of parents and family members to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Mount Zion Middle will support family engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it revised?

Mount Zion Middle School invited all parents to attend our Annual Title I Meeting on September 18 and our Stakeholder Engagement Input Meeting on September 18, 2025.. Both meetings are held in person to review and revise this parent and family engagement policy, as well as the schoolwide plan, our school-parent compact, and the family engagement budget. The draft copy of this plan will be published on the school's website and facebook from September 18th through September 25th, 2025 for additional input. Parent input and comments regarding this plan are also welcome during the school year through an online form located on the school website. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We also distribute an annual survey online during March to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family engagement. MZMS staff participates in Building Staff Capacity for engaging parents in order to encourage input and get feedback from parents on the plan.to Paper copies of the plan are available in the front office of the school. Parents and family members can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities during the school year. Contact Heath Duke at heather.duke@carrollcountyschools.com if you have any concerns about this plan.

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 plan. Mount Zion Middle will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, and of migratory children.

Where is it available?

A copy of this plan will be sent home with each student by September 26. The plan will also be posted on the school website and Facebook page. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Center or by contacting Kelley Bennett, Family Engagement Coordinator at 770-834-3389.

2025-26 District Goals

1. Increase the number of students scoring Proficient and Distinguished in ELA by three percent on the GMAS.

2. Increase the number of students scoring Proficient and Distinguished in math by three percent.

2025-26 School Goals

1. Elevate students' achievement on GMAS testing through a focus on rigorous instruction and leveraging high-impact strategies.

2. Elevate the number of students who score distinguished on GMAS testing through school-wide acceleration strategies.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Mount Zion Middle and our families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop that explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers during the

Annual Title I meeting and the Stakeholder Input meetings.

The school-parent compacts also are shared with parents during parent-teacher

conferences and kept with

each child's

teacher if parents need another copy.

Let's Get Together!

Mount Zion Middle will host the following events to build the capacity for strong family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. All meetings for parents and family members will be held at Mount Zion Middle. Meetings will be held at various times throughout the school year at times that parents have indicated best meet their schedule. Meetings will be primarily face to face but information will also be presented via social media and the school website for those. Transportation on an as needed basis will be provided to meetings as needed to prevent barriers to participation. If you need transportation to one of the meetings listed below, please contact the Kelley Bennett at 770-834-3389. Childcare will be available at all meetings.

Annual Title I Meeting – September 18, 2025 5:00 pm

We invite you to view our presentation online to learn about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements. Meeting reminders will be sent via school messenger, social media, and school website.

Title I Parent and Stakeholder Input Meeting-September 18, 2025 5:30 pm

We invite you to provide input virtually on our Title I program including the Title I School-Wide Plan, Parent and Family Engagement Plan, the School Parent Compact, and the 1% Parental Involvement Budget. Meeting reminders will be sent via Flyer, school messenger, social media, and school website. Input may also be made on the school website from September 18-25, 2025 or any other time during the school year. The input will be used to revise and develop next year's plans.

Open House – July 30, 2025 4:00-6:00 pm

Meet your child's teacher and our friendly and helpful school staff for the year. Learn about grade level expectations and information.

Taste of the Curriculum-October 9, 2025 - 5:00 pm

Join our teachers as they explain different parts of the curriculum that your students are learning. Teachers will discuss curriculum and standards from ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

Title I STEM -November 4, 2025 - 6:00 pm

Come spend some fun participating in hands on learning activities that you can do with your child in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). View the Georgia Standards of Excellence and some of the exciting things your student(s) is learning at school. Also learn about the different programs your student can use now to work on practice items for the Georgia Milestones Assessment.

Title I Literacy Night-February 5, 2026 - 5:00 pm

Learn about our ELA Curriculum as well as ways to make reading fun, and the different types of writing your students are participating in. Additionally, we will explore the different technology tools your students are working with to make reading and writing easier including Lexia and Readworks.

Preparing for the GMAS-April 16, 2026 6:00 pm

Come learn about how to help your student prepare and be successful on the GMAS.

Parent-Teacher and Student Conferences –As requested by parents at teachers at a time that is convenient for parents.

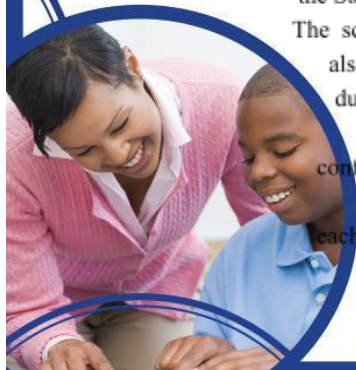
Please contact Ms. Kelley Bennett to schedule a conference with your child's teachers any time. During conferences teachers will discuss individual student assessment results. Parents may also schedule conferences to review grades and testing information with the school counselor and/or school administration.

Student Assessment Results-Scheduled meetings with parents at a time that is convenient for parents

Student assessment results from the GMAS are sent home during the Fall of each year. Teachers review assessment results with students to help with goal setting. Teachers and the school counselor are available to parents to discuss individual assessment results at any time.

News from the Nest Electronic Newsletter

Our quarterly News from the Nest newsletter will be posted on Facebook and on our website. Academic tips and important information for parents will be included.



Parent Resource Center

Come visit the Parent Resource Center to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child. Computers are available for parents to use for Infinite Campus access and educational resources.

Monday – Friday, 8:00-3:30 by appointment.

Parent and Family Engagement

Mount Zion Middle believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

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.

The carrying out of other activities as described in this plan.

Mount Zion Middle is committed to helping our parents and families attend the family activities listed in this policy. Please call or email us if you need assistance.

Kelley Bennett
Family Engagement Coordinator
770-834-3389
Kelley.bennett@carrollcountyschools.com



Mount Zion Middle Supports Parent and Family Engagement

Mount Zion 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 school goals. We will:

Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish, posted on the school website, and included in the monthly school newsletter for all families.

MZMS Staff will participate in Building Staff Capacity activities to improve practices and work with families

Provide monthly trainings for staff at least twice per semester during face to face faculty meetings and online resources on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement with all content areas for our students outside of the classroom. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled collaborative plannings.

Partner with early childhood programs, middle and high schools, college and career ready resources or organizations, parent resource centers, or other programs (as applicable) to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.

Share information in English and Spanish on the school website and in the school newsletter for parents to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.

Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, through school messenger, Constant Contact newsletters, social media, and flyers.

Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.

Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement.

Schedule and hold regular meetings including parent teacher conferences as requested by parents at a time that works for parents. Information regarding parent needs will come from parental input throughout the school year and via the annual survey.

Use our Business Partners in Education and School Leadership Team to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement policy.

Collect feedback from parents and family members at all events, and conduct surveys each March in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.



Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Mount Zion Middle 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:

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

GET INVOLVED!!!

Mount Zion Middle invites all parents and stakeholders to get involved. Attend Title I Nights, Volunteer at the School, Join Parent Partners in Education, Become a Business Partner, take part in School Council Meetings, or share ideas and ways to involve other parents and family members to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. If you would like to learn more being involved, please contact the Kelley Bennett, Parent and Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator at 770-834-3389 or Kelley.bennett@carrollcountyschools.com



Parent Partners In Education

Is a group of volunteers committed to helping students at MZMS be successful and helps promote academics, social, and extracurricular activities at MZMS. If you would like to volunteer please let Nikki Purvis know or complete this form and return to the school. Follow PPE on their Facebook page Mt. Zion Parent Partners in Education.

I am interested in volunteering with Parent Partners in

Education.

Name:

Child's Name and Grade:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email address:

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 students' and the school's goals for academic achievement please provide us with your comments in the space provided and return this form to Ms. Kelley Bennett. Input forms are also available at mzm.carrollcountyschools.com

Name: (optional)

Telephone Number: (optional)