

Clarkdale Elementary

Family-School Engagement Policy for Shared Student Success

2026–2027 School Year

*Mrs. Dwan Jones, Principal
Cobb County School District*

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770-819-2422*

*<https://www.cobbk12.org/clarkdale>
Revised 04-22-26.*

Clarkdale Elementary Academic Goals

ELA GOALS:

By May, 85% of Kindergarten students will be performing at demonstrating and exceeding levels on **GKIDS** in phoneme-grapheme correspondence, decoding with phonics, and motor skills with letter/word formation.

Increase the number of students in grades 1-2 performing at **PREPARED** levels on the Beacon assessment from 45% (102 of 225 assessed) in March 2026 to 50% of students assessed in March 2027.

Increase the number of students in grades 3-5 performing at **PROFICIENT** and **DISTINGUISHED** levels on the EOG from 44% (167 of 376 students) assessed in May 2026 to 47% of students assessed in May 2027.

Math Goals:

By May 2027, 85% of kindergarten students will be performing at Demonstrating and Exceeding levels on GKIDS in counting forward by 1s and 10s to 100 and counting backward by 1^s from any number within 20.

Increase the number of students in grades 1-2 performing at **Prepared** levels on the Beacon from 35% (94 of 320 students) assessed in March 2026 to 40% in March 2027.

Science Goals:

By May of 2027, the number of students in grades 1-5 performing at 80% proficiency from 70% to 75%, as measured by their grade-level Science Interim Assessments.

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it?

This is a plan that describes how Clarkdale Elementary will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Clarkdale Elementary values the contributions and involvement of families to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Clarkdale Elementary 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.



Jointly Developed

Clarkdale Elementary invites all parents to complete the Fall school improvement input survey/evaluation to provide suggestions on the school's Title I program. All parents are also invited to attend the Spring school improvement input meeting to revise this parental involvement policy, our school-parent compact, building staff capacity professional learning topics, and the parental involvement budget. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year. The plan is posted on our school Web site 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 that is posted online to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of the 1% reservation of funds for parental involvement. Parents can also give feedback during any parent meetings and activities during the school year.

Who is it for?

All students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their parents and families, are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this policy. Clarkdale Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of Neglected and Delinquent proxy parents, parents and families with limited English, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available?

Every family will receive the plan during Parent-Teacher Conference week. It is also available on the school website and a copy is in the front office binder. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Center. We will gladly mail the plan to you upon request.

What is Title I?

Clarkdale Elementary is identified as a school having a Schoolwide Title I program 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 which reinforce and enhance efforts to improve teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parental involvement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with all parents a written parental involvement policy.

2026-2027 Cobb County Schools District Goals

- By SY29, increase by 2 percentage points the number of students performing at the proficient and distinguished levels, as evidenced by state assessments.
- By SY29, increase graduation rate from 89% to 91% as measured by GaDOE adjusted cohort graduation rate.



Family-School Compacts

As part of this plan, Clarkdale Elementary School and our families will develop a family-school 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 School Improvement forum. The family-school compacts are distributed during Parent-Teacher Conference week October 13-16, 2026. Copies are also available throughout the year with each child's teacher.

Let's Get Together!

Clarkdale Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parental involvement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and community to improve student academic achievement. **Family and Community Engagement (FACE) activities will be held at various times to provide opportunities for all families to participate.** If you cannot attend but would like to receive meeting information, please get in touch with Clarkdale Elementary. Transportation and childcare services may be provided to prevent barriers to parent and family engagement



Annual Title I Meeting- September 9, 2026, 4 pm-5 pm Learning Commons (Virtual)

We invite you to an evening of learning about our Title I program, including the parent and family engagement policy, school-parent compacts, parents' rights under Title I, highlights of the school improvement plan, and the 1% reservation of funds for family engagement. Additionally, you'll receive a description of our school's curriculum and the assessments used to monitor student progress.

Curriculum in Action-September 15, 2026

Gives families a clear picture of what their child will be learning during the school year. Curriculum in Action is focused on academic content, grade-level expectations, and the role families play in reinforcing learning at home.

Parent-Teacher Conferences – October 13-16, 2026 (all day)

Progress on Grade-level Specific District Assessments (G-Kids, Amira, and Beacon), as well as each student's progress toward meeting grade-level standards, will be discussed during conference week.

Fall School Improvement Input Survey October 13-16, 2026 (Open Door)

Clarkdale Elementary will send home the Title I Survey/Evaluation via CTLIS Parent. Parents are asked to provide valuable feedback regarding the school, current, and future family and community engagement activities and programs.

Spring School Improvement Input Forum- April 1, 2027, 4 pm-5 pm Learning Commons and (Virtual)

Parents and educators review and discuss Clarkdale's Title I program, future parent activities, school-family compact and policy, family engagement budget, and staff training.

Family Data Night January 12, 2027

Gives families the context they need to understand their child's academic performance and become active partners in supporting growth. The goal is not simply to share numbers. It is to help families move from receiving data to understanding and knowing what to do next.

Math Night, 6 pm-8 pm November 10, 2026

Will be held at the Publix Supermarket on Macland Rd.

We will have a standards-based activity for each family to complete, aligned with each student participant's grade level. Teachers will attend and facilitate learning.

Literacy Night October 6, 2026, 5 pm-6:30 pm

Families will meet at the Sweetwater Valley Library to participate in engaging activities.

STEAM Night May 11, 2026

Families come to school for a night of engagement and fun. Each of the letters in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) is represented through hands-on learning activities.

Rising 6th Graders Parent Meeting- March 2026, 5:30 pm- 6:15 pm

Opportunities offered in Middle School. Counselors assist both parents/families and students in preparation for transitioning to middle school, including visits, information meetings, and written information. (Cooper Middle School)

Rising Kindergarten Opportunities- July 23, 2027, 11:00 am- 12:00 pm

On the fourth day of Kinder Camp, parents are invited to attend a special presentation that showcases what their children have learned and experienced during the week, helping to prepare both students and their families for a successful start to the school year.

ESOL Parent Information Meeting- September 2026, 5:00-6:00 pm

Parents will receive information and an overview of the ESOL program, eligibility requirements, and available resources.



Parent Resource Center (Rm. G106)

Hours: Mon.-Fri.; 8:30am - 1:30pm

Visit the Parent Resource Center (PRC) to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child. Computers are available for parents to explore CTLS Learn, CTLS Parent and educational resources.

Parental Involvement

Clarkdale Elementary believes that parental involvement means the participation of parents 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.

Parental Involvement Matters

Clarkdale Elementary School 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 with childcare or transportation to participate in our programs.

Cheryl Bush, Parent Facilitator
770-819-2422

Cheryl.Bush@cobbk12.org

Focused on Teaching and Learning Every Day!

Clarkdale Elementary School will take the following measures to promote and support parents as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen student academic performance 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 weekly Wednesday message for all parents.
- ✓ Provide two trainings each semester for staff during their planning periods on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement.
- ✓ Partner with our feeder schools by conducting joint meetings and events for parents and sending school information about parent engagement activities to help prepare parents and their child for school transitions.
- ✓ Share information in English and Spanish on the school blog 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 CTLS Parent, school website, social media, campus signpost and flyers, etc.
- ✓ Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parental involvement.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ Use our Parent Facilitators and Education Partners to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parental involvement policy
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents at all events and offer a variety of surveys throughout the school year to respond to parents' input regarding parental involvement activities and requested meetings.

Parental Involvement Standards

Clarkdale Elementary and our parents have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community. These standards are:

1. Welcoming All Families
2. Communicating Effectively
3. Supporting Student Success
4. Speaking Up for Every Child
5. Sharing Power
6. Collaborating with Community

Parent Involvement Opportunities

- ☐ I am interested in participating on the Principal Advisory Council.
- ☐ I am interested in volunteering in the front office.
- ☐ I am interested in volunteering in the media center.
- ☐ I am interested in other volunteer opportunities, please contact me as needed.

Name: _____

Child's Name and

Grade: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email _____

Address: _____

To return this form via email to Cheryl Bush
or deliver form to the school's Main Office.

Principal Advisory Council

The purpose of the Principal Advisory Council is to bring together parents, community members, and school staff to create a better understanding of and mutual respect for each other's concerns and share ideas for school improvement.

The Principal Advisory Council meets three times per school year. Along with the principal, council members include:

1. Two staff members (one being the current Teacher of the Year).
2. Two parents (one being the current PTSA president).
3. Two members of the community (one being a Partner in Education representative).
4. High Schools *only* should include the president of the student government association or the senior class president.

If you would like to share your ideas and perspective with the Principal Advisory Council, please contact **Mrs. Dwan.Jones@cobbk12.org**.

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 students' 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): _____

Phone Number (Optional): _____

Email Address (Optional): _____

Suggestions, Compliments, Concerns:
