School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it?
This is a plan that describes how DeKalb PATH Academy will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning.

DeKalb PATH Academy 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 DeKalb PATH Academy 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?
DeKalb PATH Academy invited all parents to attend Cafecito this August 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. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year through an online form. 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 and via Remind to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family engagement. Parents and family members can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities during the school year.

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. DeKalb PATH Academy 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?
We will send the plan to all parents in September before Cafecito via Remind. The plan will also be posted on the school website. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the front office.
**2018–19 District Goals**

**Goals of DeKalb County School District:**

**Goal Area I: Student Success with Equity and Access**

- The DeKalb County School District will increase the percentage of students scoring at the Developing Learner level or above on the Georgia Milestones Literature End of Grade (EOG) Assessment.

- The DeKalb County School District will increase the percentage of students scoring at the Developing Learner level or above on the Georgia Milestones Math End of Grade (EOG) Assessment.

At DeKalb PATH Academy we will provide all students with high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment.

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**2018–19 School Academic Goals**

By the end of 2018-2019 school year, we will improve mastery of academically rigorous learning standards in reading by:

- Increasing the percentage of students showing growth on Math and ELA Milestones and scoring Proficient in Science by 5% in each grade level.
- Increasing the percentage of students exiting from ESOL by 5%.
- Increase the number of students who score a Distinguished on the Math and ELA Milestones.

**School-Parent Compacts**

As part of this plan, DeKalb PATH Academy 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 our Title I Stakeholders Input Meeting.

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**Let’s Get Together! Family Engagement Matters!**

DeKalb PATH Academy 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.

**Curriculum Nights – August 21, 23, 28, and 30**

Meet your child’s teachers, visit classrooms, and learn about PTO at these welcome back to school nights in August. One per grade level.

**Annual Title I Meeting - 9/27/2018 12:00 AM**

We invite you to an morning of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, Continuous School Improvement Plan, the school-parent compacts, Building Capacity for School Staff, and 1% Parental Involvement Set-Aside. Invitations will be sent home in flyer form, advertised on our website as well as sent out via Remind.

**Fall Festival – 10/26/2018 12:00 AM**

Get to know your teachers and school staff at this fun-filled family affair. There will be games, food trucks, and an outdoor movie!

**Title I Stakeholder’s Input Meetings – To take place in spring of 2019**

A forum for parents and family members to participate in roundtable discussions with the principal and staff regarding the Continuous School Improvement Plan, parent and family engagement policy, school-parent compacts, and the family engagement budget.

List activities, events, and meetings with descriptions that support the following indicators:

- At each curriculum night, parents will be given an opportunity to sign up for an individual conference during which they can meet with teachers to discuss their child’s progress. Parents can also call the school to set up a conference either before school, after school, or during the school day.

- Parents will be invited to provide input on the Continuous School Improvement Plan at August Curriculum Nights, Cafecito, and Title I meetings in the spring.

- The school will provide weekly computer lab usage and Rosetta Stone subscriptions for parents who wish to take English or Spanish language courses.

- At August curriculum nights, language arts teachers will provide information on how to support literacy in the home. Each subject area teacher will provide specific resources for parents for assisting their children in their work in that content area. Teams will also provide grade-level appropriate suggestions for how to support children’s academics at home, including checking paychecks and agendas nightly, organizing binders, encouraging reading, and checking for completion and quality of nightly homework.
DeKalb PATH Academy will provide information to parents on the district Title III ESL language courses. We also assist parents each summer in completing the application for free and reduced lunch as well as provide a high-school placement specialist to assist 8th graders in exploring their high school options.

Communication about Student Learning

DeKalb PATH Academy 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.

DeKalb PATH Academy 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 or more information on our activities.

Kevin Romero
404-876-3242
kromero@pathacademy.org

DeKalb PATH Academy – Parents as Partners

DeKalb PATH Academy will take the following measures to promote and support parents and family members as an important foundation of the school to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will:

✓ We want to hear from you! Join us at our monthly Cafecito meetings from 8 to 9AM. Additionally, please sign up to meet your child’s teachers and provide input in how we can best serve your child at parent conference nights.

✓ The Parent Family Engagement Policy will be available on our website as well as in the front office. You will also be texted a link to the policy via Remind. Finally, you may call or e-mail the school to request a paper copy of the policy at any time.

✓ We use multiple sources to send home information about upcoming Title I meetings, including but not limited to fliers, notifications on our websites, and notifications via Remind and WhatsApp. Stakeholders can use WhatsApp to respond and maintain an ongoing conversation with administration and other parents.

✓ The school will invite parent input on building capacity for school staff at our Stakeholder’s Input Meetings in August and in the spring.

✓ Parents and students can use Infinite Campus to find out information about their students’ academic progress and assignments. Curriculum Nights held each August provide an opportunity for parents to engage with their child’s teachers and staff and learn about resources that will allow them to assist their child academically at home, including but not limited to IXL, Khan Academy, Infinite Campus, and literacy resources.

✓ The school counseling department will partner with parents to offer specialized instruction for school staff regarding parent outreach, cultural appreciation, and communicating through the language barrier.

✓ Our parent liaison and largely Spanish-speaking staff will ensure that resources sent home are provided in both English, Spanish, and Amharic. We will work with the district to provide additional language assistance as needed.

✓ Build parent capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement.

✓ Based on feedback from parents we will provide our staff with workshops on how to reach out to communicate and work with parents as equal partners.

*Residential facilities (Homeless, foster care, and N&D) in our school’s attendance area are included in our parent and family engagement correspondence and activities.
### Parent and Family Engagement Standards

DeKalb PATH Academy 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 Teacher Organization

DeKalb PATH Academy invites all parents to join the Parent Teacher Organization to share ideas and ways to involve other parents with school, families, and the community. The committee will meet multiple times during the school year, but parents and family members can also submit their ideas or suggestions at any school activities and meetings, as well as through our parent surveys, website, and suggestion box. If you would like to learn more about PTO, contact the school at (404) 876-3242.

### 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 leave this form in the Main Office:

- Name: (optional) ________________________________
- Telephone Number: (optional) __________________________
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