NEWTON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
TITLE I PARENT AND STUDENT HANDBOOK

Newton High School

2023 — 2024

Dr. Shannon Buff, Principal

Newton County Schools
Title I Parent and Student Handbook
School Year 2023-2024

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s) and Students,

We welcome you to the School-wide Title I Program at Newton High School. We are excited about providing the best educational experience for your child and we look forward to an exciting school year. Enclosed you will find several items of information concerning the Title I program:

1. A Parent's Guide to Title I
2. Newton County School System Parent and Family Engagement Policy
3. School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
4. School-Parent Compact
5. Parent's Right to Know Letter
6. Complaint Procedures
7. Fraud, Waste, Abuse, and Corruption Policy
8. Occupational Survey
9. Affordable Connectivity Program Handout
10. Homeless Brochure

Please sign and immediately return the following forms to your child's school.

1. **Letter of Notification - (Gold Form)**
2. **School-Parent Compact-(Gold Form)**
3. **Occupational Survey (Gold Form)**

If you have questions about the Title I program, please contact the principal, Shannon Buff at 770-787-2250 or email at buff.shannon@newton.k12.ga.us.

Thank you for your support of Title I program at Newton High School.

Sincerely,
Shannon Buff

****

Please sign and return

_____ _____
Student's name Date

_____ _____
Parent's Signature Date

Newton High School

Respectful, Accountable, Motivated, Successful

School-Parent Compact

Newton High School

2023— 2024

[Revision Date 07/30/2023]

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Newton High School students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families, agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement as well as describes how the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the challenging State academic standards. Please review the attached School-Parent Compact.

Please sign and date below to acknowledge that you have read, received, and agree to this School-Parent Compact. Once signed, please return the form to your child's teacher and keep the School-Parent Compact as a reminder of your commitment. The School-Parent Compact will be discussed with you throughout the year at different school-family events as we work together to help your child succeed in school. We look forward to our school-parent partnership!

Sincerely,

Dr. Shannon Buff

Principal

Teachers Signature: _____Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____Date: _____

Student Signature: _____Date: _____

Georgia Department of Education

Educating Georgia's Future

School District: _____ **Date**: _____

Parent Occupational Survey

Please complete this form to determine if your child(ren) qualify to receive supplemental services under Title I, Part C

Name of Student(s)	Name of School	Grade
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

1. Has anyone in your household moved in order to work in another city, county, or state, in the last three (3) years? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

2. Has anyone in your household been involved in one of the following occupations, either full or part-time or temporarily during the last three (3) years? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If you answer "yes", check all that applies:

☐ 1) Planting/Picking vegetables (tomatoes, squash, onions, etc.) or fruits (grapes, strawberries, blueberries, etc.)
☐ 2) Planting, growing, cutting, processing trees (pulpwood), or raking pine straw
☐ 3) Processing/Packing agricultural products
☐ 4) Dairy/Poultry/Livestock
☐ 5) Packing/Processing meats (beef, poultry, or seafood)
☐ 6) Commercial fishing or fish farms
☐ 7) Other (Please specify occupation): _____

Names of Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) _____

Current Address: _____

City: _____State: _____Zip Code: _____Phone: _____

Thank You! Please return this form to the school

Please maintain original copy in your files.
MEP funded school/district: Please give this form to the migrant liaison or migrant contact for your school/district.
Non-MEP funded (consortium) school/districts: When at least one "yes" **and** one or more of the boxes from 1 to 7 is/are checked, districts should email, always through the DOE's Portal, occupational surveys to the Regional Migrant Education Program Office serving your district. For additional questions regarding this form, please call the MEP office serving your district:

GaDOE Region 1 MEP, Rose McKeehan
Phone: 470-763-1137
rmcKeehan@doe.k12.ga.us

GaDOE Region 2 MEP, Pearl Barker
Phone: 470-763-1138
PBarker@doe.k12.ga.us

Family Contacted/Attempt Date: _____ Sent to Regional Office on: _____

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO TITLE I

Welcome to our school!

We are one of Newton County Schools providing instruction to students through a Title I Schoolwide Program. The information that follows is intended to assist parents and the community in understanding what it means for our school to have a Title I Schoolwide Program.

What is a Title I?

Title I is a part of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The Act provides financial assistance to state and local education agencies to meet the educational needs of children who may be at risk of failing the state's performance standards.

What is a Title I Schoolwide Program?

A School-Wide Program uses Title I funds to develop and maintain quality educational services in the core academic areas in order to raise academic achievement for all students at the school.

What are the benefits of a Schoolwide Program?

The benefits that our school receives by having a Title I School-Wide Program include:

- Flexibility in having personnel provide instruction to students.
- ALL students can have their academic needs met.
- ALL staff can participate in professional development.

All of our energies and resources are directed toward helping every student in our school meet and exceed state performance standards.

Parent and Family Engagement at Our School

Our staff understands the importance of involving parents as partners in the education of their children. As a Title I school, we encourage parent support of student instruction through learn-at-home activities and school level volunteer opportunities. Additional focal points for parent involvement include development of parenting skills, communication styles and community collaboration. The following are ways we invite and encourage parents to be involved at your child's school:

- Increasing Parent Awareness by providing each parent a copy of the district and school parent and family engagement policies.
- Encouraging each parent to sign and fulfill the harmony of the School-Parent Compact.
- Providing a voice for parent by participating in Parent Surveys and input meetings.
- Building school and community support by hosting parent meetings and workshops.
- Providing parents with Rights to Know information concerning Teacher Certification status.

Please visit our website to gain more information about Newton County School System's Title I Program.

- Family-School Partnership Program
- Title I Department Personnel
- Title I, Part A-Schoolwide Programs
- Title I, Part A-Targeted Assistance Programs
- Title I, Part A-Reward Schools
- Title I, Part C-Migrant Education
- Title III-EL/Immigrant Education
- Title IX, Part A-Homeless Education Program
- Title I Resources
- Fraud Procedures
- Complaints and Procedures

Recommended websites for parents and students:

- www.newtoncountyschools.org - Locate information about departments, programs and schools within the county. Learn more about the State Title I Program.

- https://campus.newton.k12.ga.us/campus/portal/newton.jsp- Provides parents access to accurate, current and confidential information about students' school attendance, grades, class assignments, and more on the Infinite Campus portal. Login information is provided by each school of attendance.

For more information, contact the following:

Dr. Shelia Thomas – Chief Strategy and Support Services Officer
thomas.shelia@newton.k12.ga.us
770-787-1330 ext. 1250

Dr. Andrea Kinney
kinney.andrea@newton.k12.ga.us
770-787-1330 ext. 1248
2109 Newton Drive
Covington, GA 30014

Newton County School System
Parent and Family Engagement Policy

2023-2024

Revised May 31, 2023
2109 Newton Drive
Covington, GA 30014
www.newtoncountyschools.org

What is Family Engagement?

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:

(A) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.

(B) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.

(C) 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.

(D) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.

About the Parent and Family Engagement Policy

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Newton County School System (NCSS) has developed this parent and family engagement policy 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 Title I schools. This plan will describe NCSS's 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 family engagement 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 and family members in their children's education. Consistent with Section 1116, the NCSS will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESSA.

Jointly Developed

During each Title I School's Stakeholder Input and Development meeting, all parents are invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve the LEA's Parent and Family Engagement Policy for the 2023-2024 school year. The school sent a letter to all parents informing them about the meeting and posted an announcement on their school's website. During the meeting, parents also reviewed and discussed, the development of the School Parent and Family Engagement Policy in addition to the CLIP, the School-Parent Compact, the 1% Parent Allocation, Building Staff Capacity, and the Title I Schoolwide Plan.

Upon final revision, the district parental involvement policy was incorporated into the CLIP, which was submitted to the state. Parents are welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the policy at any time on the district's website or by submitting written comments to their child's school. All feedback received was considered when revising policy for this school year.

The district's parental involvement policy was posted on the district websites, distributed as part of the Title I Parent Involvement Handbooks at the beginning of the school year and made available in the school's resource centers.

Strengthening Our School

This year, the district Family Engagement and Compliance Specialist will provide assistance and support to all 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 and the Family Engagement and Compliance Specialist to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the district and the Family Engagement and Compliance Specialist will hold meetings and trainings with its Title I Parent Contacts to provide technical assistance and review family engagement plans and activities.

The meetings and trainings include:

- Title I Parent Contact Orientation
- Title I Parent Contact Building Capacity Meeting
- Title I Parent Contacts Year-End Meeting

Reservation of Funds

The NCSS will reserve 1% from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in 23-24 school year to carry out the parent and family engagement requirements listed in this policy and as described in Section 1116 of the ESSA. Furthermore, the district will distribute 90 percent of the amount reserved to Title I schools to support their local-level family engagement programs and activities. The district will provide clear guidance and communication to assist each Title I school in developing an adequate family engagement budget that addresses their needs assessment and parent recommendations.

Each Title I school will host an annual Revision and Development Meeting for parents to provide suggestions on how these family engagement funds will be used in the upcoming year at the district and school level. Comments and minutes from these meetings will be reviewed by the district to determine areas of need for the upcoming school year and consider changes to the family engagement budget.

Opportunities for Meaningful Parent Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents and family members and the community are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All parents of students attending a Title I school are invited to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our student academic achievement goals.

Title I Parent and Student Handbooks

All Title I Parents receive a copy of the LEAs Parent and Family Engagement Policy at the beginning of each school year as part of the Parent and Student Title I Handbook. Parents are invited to complete the input form attached to the policy to provide input and return it to their child's school. The Title I Parent Contact at each school collects the input forms and will submit them to the District's Family Engagement and Compliance Specialist.

Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP)

The LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP) will be posted on the district's website so that parents and the community can provide input on the family engagement budget and family engagement programs throughout the year.

School-Level Stakeholder Input Meetings

All parents and the community are welcome to review and provide input into the district parent and family engagement policy and the CLIP for the 2023-2024 school year. Notices regarding this meeting will be sent home to all parents in advance of the meeting.

Parent input on the use of Title I funds to support family engagement programs may also be provided through the annual district survey. The survey will contain questions related to the family engagement budget as well as a section for parents to provide their comments.

Title I

Building Capacity

The NCSS will build the schools' and parents' capacity (Primary and Secondary Methods) for strong family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and family members and to support a partnership among the Title I schools, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement by building the capacity for effective family-school partnerships through meaningful parent meetings and other activities that are linked to student learning.

NCSS will work as a district and through its Title I schools to provide assistance to parents in understanding state and district academic information connected to their student's learning and progress, as well as information regarding the Title I program. The NCSS will provide classes for parents to gain knowledge about the challenging state academic standards, local academic assessments, as well as the required assessments for Georgia students including alternative forms of assessment.

NCSS will provide materials and trainings in English and Spanish and in a language that the parent can understand Each Title I school will provide information to assist parents with understanding the online student information system and other digital educational resources (including education about the harms of copyright piracy) during the Annual Title I Parent Orientation. Dates and times for the orientations will be determined and announced by each individual school.

NCSS's District Family Engagement and Compliance Specialist will provide tools, resources, and materials to assist each Title I school to provide meaningful quarterly trainings to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff. The trainings will assist schools to reflect on current practices to recognize strengths and opportunities for improvements and implement a parent and family engagement program that cultivates effective family-school partnerships.

NCSS will coordinate and integrate the district's family engagement programs with the local preschool program and other federal funded preschool programs in the district by inviting faculty and staff from those programs to attend planning meetings focused on family engagement activities. In the spring, the elementary schools will host Kindergarten Round-Up days so parents may tour the schools and receive information to help prepare them and their children for kindergarten. The district will also coordinate with these programs to ensure that parents are informed about available resources. In addition, Newton County School System works with multiple agencies to ensure efforts are coordinated on behalf of meeting the needs of migrant, homeless, immigrant, ELL, neglected and delinquent, at risk, early childhood students and military related families.

NCSS's District Family Engagement and Compliance Specialist will conduct a Title I Contacts Building Parent Capacity Meeting for Title I Parent Contacts to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school- family communication, and build ties with parents and the community. These trainings and/or best practices will be redelivered to the faculty and staff of Title I schools.

NCSS ensures that information related to district, school, parent meetings, and activities is available to all parents. Each Title I school is required to send home and post online information for parents and family members in an understandable language and uniform format. Title I Parent Contacts will be trained to assist their schools on parent notifications and resources to be sent home in the parents' native language, where applicable, and providing interpreters at parent meetings. Information posted on the district website will be translated to the extent practicable. The district will also utilize school phone call systems, district and school websites, local news media, and other school message systems to post information for parents.

Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, the NCSS will conduct an evaluation of the content effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy and the parent engagement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I schools through an annual parent survey and Annual Parent Revision and Development Stakeholders Input Meeting.

Beginning each April, each Title I school will send home a survey flyer to inform parents of the district's online Parent Involvement Survey that starts in the spring. All parents are invited to participate in the survey made available on the district and school's website.

In addition to the online survey, a hard copy of the survey is provided to parents who have limited or no technology to access the survey. Copies of the survey are provided in Spanish. Copies of the survey will be made available in other languages upon parent request.

NCSS will use the information from the school-level stakeholder's meetings and the survey results to design strategies to improve effective family engagement, to remove possible barriers to parent participation, and to revise its parent and family engagement policies.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the district Family Engagement and Compliance Specialist will communicate and collaborate with the Office for Student Support Services to ensure full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.

Adoption

This districtwide parent and family engagement policy 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 school-level revision and development meetings.

This policy was adopted by the Newton County School System on May 31, 2023, and will be in effect for the 2023-2024 academic school year. The school district will distribute this policy in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before September 29, 2023.

Parent Comments

Newton County School System encourages parent input and comments at any time regarding the parent and family engagement policy. All parent feedback will be used to revise the current policy for the next school year. The policy is posted on the district's website and paper copies are available at the Board Office. We administer an annual survey for all parents to provide feedback and make any suggestions that parents find important. Parents may also offer feedback at their child's school revision meeting held in the spring.

If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this plan that you feel is not satisfactory, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the main office of your child's school:

Name (optional) _____

Phone (optional) _____

Comments:_____

"Nothing you do for children is ever wasted." – Garrison Keillor

"At the end on the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents." -Jane D. Hull

If you have any questions or concerns please contact:

Office of Federal Programs
Family Engagement & Compliance Specialist
(770) 787-1330 ext. 1318

Newton High School
2023-2024
School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Dr. Shannon Buff, Principal
1 Ram Way
Covington Ga, 30014
770-787-2250

www.newtoncountyschools.org/newton
[Revision Date 07/30/2023]

Title I Information

Newton High School is designated as a school-wide Title I School as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). As a Title I school, Newton High School receives federal funding to help ensure that all children meet the challenging state academic standards. These funds are used to provide resources and support to teachers and students to increase student achievement. Funds are also used to encourage and support parental involvement throughout the school year.

School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What it is?
The staff of Newton High School believes that a great measure and strategy for student success is parental involvement. There must be an effective relationship through and among the students, staff, and the parent community. The cooperative implementation of the strategies outlined in this parent involvement policy will provide increased support for the students of Newton High School. This policy is intended to support and increase student achievement and enhance our mission to create students who are RAMS – Respectful, Accountable, Motivated, and Successful.

How is it revised?
A parent revision meeting was held in April 2023 seeking input for this policy, our school-parent compact, the district 's Parent & Family Engagement Policy the parental involvement budget, our Title I Schoolwide Plan, building staff capacity, the Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan. Parent input and comments regarding this policy is welcomed throughout the school year. The policy is posted on the school website along with a input form. Additionally, a Parent Involvement Survey is given annually and results of this survey are used in the revision of this plan. The policy is located in the front office and the parent resource section of the media center. All feedback gathered will be used to revise the plan for next school year.

Who is it for?
As a school-wide Title I school, **all** students and parents are invited and encouraged to participate in all the opportunities described in this plan. Newton High School is dedicated to providing opportunities for all parents to fully participate and shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available?
At the beginning of each school year, a Title I packet is sent home with each child containing the Parent & Family Engagement Policy, the School-Parent Compact and other vital Title I information. This policy is posted on the school's website and additional copies are maintained in the Media Center that parents may pick up throughout the school year.

Newton County Schools Goals

The mission of Newton County Schools is to provide educational excellence to all students. To accomplish this mission, the following goals have been set:

Goal 1: Increase the graduation rate
Goal 2: Increase opportunities for students to demonstrate success beyond test scores
Goal 3: Improve student mastery of standards

Newton High School's Goals

It is the vision of Newton High School to focus all of its resources on providing ***every child every chance to succeed***. To accomplish this mission, our goals are:

Goal 1a: 9th & 11th grade students will improve their achievement in EOC subject areas by increasing the proficiency rate by 3% on the Georgia Milestones Assessments by the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
Goal 1b: For 10th & 12th grade, 90% of students will complete 6 out of 7 courses with a passing grade of 70% or higher for the 2023-2024 school year.
Goal 2: Improve grades in content areas grades 9-12 by 3% by the end of the 2023-2024 school year as measured by report cards and/or the FastBridge assessment.

School-Parent Compacts

In April of 2023, Newton High School invited all parents to attend the annual Title I revision meeting. Prior to the meeting, draft copies of the school-parent compact were emailed to parents and school staff, placed on the school website, and placed in the front office. Parents were encouraged to submit suggestions for improving the compact by attending the revision meeting or by emailing or calling the school's Title I Contact. The compact is reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students and teachers.

Parent Engagement Program and Activities

Newton High School is committed to providing parents with timely information about Title meetings. Each year a parent involvement calendar is sent home to every household. This calendar is also posted on the school website. Flyers are posted, as well as School Messenger phone calls and emails sent a couple of weeks prior to each meeting. Reminders are also sent out via the school's Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Newton High School will offer various Title I Meetings at convenient times throughout the school year. All parent meetings will begin at 6:00 PM.

Parent Teacher Conferences—September 15, 2023
Students will be released early for parents to meet with teachers about student progress in their classes.

Annual Title I Parent Orientation Meeting —September 21, 2023
Newton High School will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation as well as the parents' right to be involved. Parents will also be informed of how they can get involved at Newton High School.

College and Career Readiness Night—November 9, 2023
Students, parents, and families will be given multiple resources and strategies in preparing for college. From information about the FAFSA to SAT/ACT testing and scholarships, this night will be beneficial to all students preparing to go to college.

Parent Teacher Conferences—February 2, 2024
Students will be released early for parents to meet with teachers about student progress in their classes.

Georgia Milestones Information & Resources Night —March 7, 2024
Parents will be provided with resources , skills, and strategies that may be used to help prepare their student (s) to succeed on the Georgia Milestone assessments.

Annual Title I Stakeholder Input Meeting—April 18, 2024
A review of the NHS Title I Plan, School and District Parent & Family Engagement Policy, School-Parent Compact, and the 1% budget allocation of parent involvement funds, ways to build staff capacity, and the CLIP will be shared seeking feedback from parents.

Parent Resource Section

Newton High School's Parent Resource Section is located in the Media Center and is available to parents during regular office hours, 8:00 am - 3:30 pm.

Please call or email us if you need assistance.
770-787-2250

Dr. Felicia Richardson - Title I Contact - NHS

Richardson.felicia@newton.k12.ga.us

Dr. Lateasha White - Title I Contact - NHS

white.lateasha@newton.k12.ga.us

Parent and Family Engagement

Newton High School believes that parent and family engagement means the participation of parents in regular two-way, meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- That all 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 as it pertains to the education of their child;
- The fulfillment of activities as described in this plan.

Building Capacity

Newton High School will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities described below:

Newton High School will publish and share all information in English and Spanish that provides assistance to parents in understanding the academic content and achievement standards, state mandated tests and student learning objectives, monitoring their child's progress, and how to work with educators. Links to current curriculums, state mandated tests and student learning objectives will be posted on our website.

Newton High School will provide materials and trainings to parents to help parents to work with their children to improve overall student achievement. Parent meetings will be linked to learning to provide parents with strategies to support their children at home.

Newton High School will provide professional learning to teachers and other staff to members on how to build effective parent engagement activities that are linked to learning and the importance of the school-parent compact and the parent and family engagement policy to ensure understanding of the faculty responsibilities in creating an effective school-parent partnerships.

Newton High School will coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities that encourage and support parents in the education of their children. NHS will coordinate with the middle schools to help transition upcoming freshman students.

Newton High School provides a Parent Resource section in the Media Center that provides additional resources on a variety of topics and will include resources posted on the school's website. Each academic department will provide additional parental resources for each course that can be used by parents to further help their students.

Newton High School will ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to all parents in an understandable and uniform format, and to the extent possible, in a language the parents can understand.

Newton High School will send flyers for all Title I meetings to parents in English or in Spanish in a timely manner. The flyers will also be posted on the school's website and at key viewing areas around the school.

Newton High School will send reminders for all meetings through the school messenger system, the school's Facebook and Twitter accounts, and on the school's marquee sign.

Newton High School will provide additional reasonable support for parental involvement activities as requested by parents. Parents will have an opportunity to voice concerns and request additional support at all Title I meetings.

Parent Engagement Funds

Did you know that each LEA that receives more than $500,000 in Title I, Part A funds, shall reserve at least one percent of its allocation to assist schools to carry out the parental engagement activities? Attend our Annual Title I Stakeholders' Input Meeting to give your input on how we can use our funds to provide you with the tools, resources and strategies to help your child reach academic success.

Annual Title I Stakeholder Input Meeting - April 18, 2024

Continuous Communication

All informed, engaged, and supportive family plays an instrumental role in a student's academic success. The Newton County School System supports families in partnerships with schools, district, and the community in the quest of achieving academic success for all students. Here are some ways that we provide continuous communication with our parents to ensure that learning is continued beyond the school day.

- Parent Connect Canvas Page
- Newton High School's Website
- Teacher Canvas Pages
- Social Media (Facebook and Twitter)
- Parent Quick Tip Study Skills Brochures
- Parents Still Make a Difference
- Parent Study Calendars

For more information, contact Dr. Felicia Richardson at Richardson.felicia@newton.k12.ga.us | Dr. Lateasha White at white.lateasha@newton.k12.ga.us

Measures of Effectiveness

- **Parent Meeting Evaluation** - to gather feedback from the parents to evaluate the effectiveness of the meeting and to gain insight on parent academic support for future meetings.
- **Parent Survey Data** - to gain insight on NHS effectiveness in meeting the needs of parents in various areas such as technology, parent workshop topics, and school climate so that we can create an environment that meets the needs of all parents and families.
- **Revision and Development Stakeholders Meeting:** to give all stakeholders the opportunity to give input to build the effectiveness on the:
    - Parent and Family Engagement Policy-School and District
    - School-Parent Compact
    - Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP)
    - Title I Schoolwide Plan
    - Parent Involvement 1% Funding
    - Educating Faculty and Staff Professional Learning
- **Student Outcomes:** to access if strategies and activities, as outlined on the school-parent compacts, are effectively impacting student achievement.
- **Multiple Opportunities for Input:** NHS will provide several opportunities for parents and families to give input on the effectiveness of the Title I Program. Parents can access our Title I Schoolwide Plan, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and the School-Parent Compact on our school's website. These documents are also located in the parent resource section of our school Media Center.

Parent Comments and Suggestions

Parent Comments and Suggestions

We want to hear from you! If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of the schoolwide program plan that you feel needs to be adjusted, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the office.

Name: (optional)_____

Telephone Number (optional)_____

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School-Parent Compact

9th Grade

2023 - 2024

Revised 07/30/23

Newton High School

Respectful, Accountable, Motivated, Successful

What is a School-Parent Compact?

A school-parent compact is a written commitment describing how all members of a community—parents, teachers, principals, and students—agree to share responsibility for student learning. Effective compacts:

- Link to academic achievement goals
- Focus on student learning
- Share strategies that staff, parents, and students can use
- Explain how parents and teachers can communicate about student progress
- Describe opportunities for parents to observe, volunteer, and participate in the classroom and their student's achievement

Activities to Build Partnerships

Each year Newton High School will hold a minimum of four Parent Involvement Meetings. Below is a current schedule of planned meetings for the 2023-2024 school year. Please make plans to attend each meeting.

Title 1 Annual Parent Orientation Meeting
September 21, 2023

College and Career Readiness Night
November 9, 2023

Georgia Milestones Information & Resources Night
March 7, 2024

Title I Parent Revision and Development Meeting/
Preparing for the Next School Year
April 18, 2024

Jointly Developed

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Communications About Student Learning

NHS is committed to ongoing two-way communication with families about their child's learning and progress. The following are some ways that we will reach you.

Parent Conferences

September 15, 2023 & February 2, 2024

- 24/7 access to the student grade portal on Infinite Campus to stay updated on their child's progress in each class. Parents are also encouraged to contact teachers as needed.
- Teachers will update grades on a regular basis and maintain open contact with parents.
- In addition, Progress Reports & Report Cards (***in bold**) will be sent home with students on the following dates: **Aug. 31, Oct. 19, Nov. 30**, **Jan. 11, Feb. 8**, **Mar. 21, Apr. 25**, **May 23**
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Our Goals for Student Achievement

Newton County Schools' Goal

NCSS goals are to increase the graduation rate, increase opportunities for students to demonstrate success beyond test scores, and improve student mastery of standards.

Newton High School's Goals

Goal 1: 9th & 11th grade students will improve their achievement in EOC subject areas by increasing the proficiency rate by 3% on the Georgia Milestones Assessments by the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
Focus Area: Tier II and Tier III vocabulary

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Teachers, Students, and Parents—Together for Success

Teachers/Schools

- Host Georgia Milestones Information and Resources Night to share testing tips and strategies for improving Tier II and Tier III vocabulary, study skills, and testing strategies in preparation for EOC exams
- Provide Quick Tip Parent Brochures, vocabulary study guides books, HS study guide packs, in the parent resource room that shares tips on helping your child with study and test-taking skills
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Families

- Attend Georgia Milestones Information and Resources Night with my child to receive strategies for improving Tier II and III vocabulary, study skills, and testing strategies
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Student

- Take home flyers and encourage my parents to attend Georgia Milestones Information Night with me.
- Use the tips and strategies provided in the Quick Tip brochures and other resources to help me with my study and testing-taking skills.
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School-Parent Compact

10th Grade

2023 - 2024

Revised 07/30/23

Newton High School

Respectful, Accountable, Motivated, Successful

What is a School-Parent Compact?

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- Link to academic achievement goals
- Focus on student learning
- Share strategies that staff, parents, and students can use
- Explain how parents and teachers can communicate about student progress
- Describe opportunities for parents to observe, volunteer, and participate in the classroom and their student's achievement

Activities to Build Partnerships

Each year Newton High School will hold a minimum of four Parent Involvement Meetings. Below is a current schedule of planned meetings for the 2023-2024 school year. Please make plans to attend each meeting.

Title 1 Annual Parent Orientation Meeting
September 21, 2023

College and Career Readiness Night
November 9, 2023

Georgia Milestones Information & Resources Night
March 7, 2024

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Preparing for the Next School Year
April 18, 2024

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School-Parent Compact

11th Grade

2023 - 2024

Revised 07/30/23

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School-Parent Compact

12th Grade

2023 - 2024

Revised 07/30/23

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NEWTON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

OFFICE OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS
2109 NEWTON DRIVE, N.E.
P.O. BOX 1469
COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30015
Phone: (770) 787-1330 * Fax (770) 784-2945

SAMANTHA FUHREY, Ed. S.
Superintendent

SHELIA THOMAS, Ed. D.
Chief Strategy and Support Services Officer

Newton County Board of Education
Annual Parent Notification Letter
Right to Know Professional Qualifications of Teachers and Paraprofessionals

Date: August 1, 2023

Dear Parents,
In compliance with the requirements of the Every Students Succeeds Act, the Newton High School 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.

Please rest assured that our staff is committed to helping your child reach his or her maximum academic potential throughout their school career. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers and paraprofessionals are highly skilled and delivering quality instruction to your child.

If you wish to request information concerning your child's teachers' qualifications, please contact me, Dr. Shannon Buff, your child's principal, by phone at 770-787-2250 or by email at buff.shannon@newton.k12.ga.us.

Thank you for your interest and involvement in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shannon Buff
Principal

Dr. Shannon Buff	Principal
Name	Title
770-787-2250	buff.shannon@newton.k12.ga.us
Telephone Number	Email Address

Office Use Only
Student #_____ Date Distributed_____ _____

Education of Homeless Children and Youth
A Guide for Parents and Guardians

Revised June 1, 2023

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the McKinney-Vento Act?
The McKinney-Vento Act is a law passed in 1987 and amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015. The McKinney-Vento Act removes barriers to access or success for homeless children in school.

How does the law define homelessness?
An individual is "homeless" who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. This definition of homelessness includes those living in shelters, motels, campgrounds, cars, abandoned buildings, or other inadequate shelter. The law also includes situations in which an individual shares housing with relatives or others because he or she has lost housing or cannot afford housing due to economic hardship.

What are my child's rights under the McKinney-Vento Act?
A child considered homeless under the law has:

- The right to immediate enrollment in school without having health and school records available;
- The right to attend either the school of origin or the school in the attendance area where the family currently resides;
- The right to receive transportation to school of origin when feasible and in the best interest of the child, if requested by parent/guardian
- The right to access comparable services, including transportation services, educational services, supplemental services, extracurricular activities, and free meals through the School Nutrition Program.

Homeless children and youth may not be stigmatized by school personnel. Families of homeless children and youth have the right to dispute enrollment if the local school sends the homeless child or youth to a school other than the school of origin requested by the parent/guardian or by an unaccompanied youth.

If my child and I become homeless during the school year what should I do?
Ask to speak to the homeless school contact or school counselor.

Who can I call if I need assistance?
Contact the homeless school contact who serves your child's school.

For more information, contact the following:

Khiem Reed -Newton County School System Homeless Liaison
reed.khiem@newton.k12.ga.us
770-787-1330 ext. 3907

AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

WHAT IS IT?

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet service.

The benefit provides:

- Up to $30/month discount for internet service;
- Up to $75/month discount for households on qualifying Tribal lands; and
- A one-time discount of up to $100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased through a participating provider.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

A household is eligible if one member of the household meets at least one of the criteria below:

- Has an income that is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guide lines;
- Participates in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline;
- Participates in Tribal specific programs, such as Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations;
- Is approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school break fast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating broadband provider's existing low-income program.

TWO STEPS TO ENROLL

1

Go to **ACPBenefit.org** to submit an application or print out a mail-in application.

2

Contact your preferred participating provider to select an eligible plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Some providers may have an alternative application that they will ask you to complete.

Eligible households must both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.

LEARN MORE

Call 877-384-2575, or

Visit **fcc.gov/acp**

NEWTON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
WASTE, FRAUD, ABUSE AND CORRUPTION
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS
Revised June 1, 2023

Reporting Suspicion of Fraudulent Activities

- Title I, Part A – Programs for Disadvantaged Children
- Title I, Part A –School Improvement 1003 (a)
- Title I, Part A - Academic Achievement Awards
- Title I, Part A - Foster Care Program
- Title I, Part A - Family-School Partnership Program
- Title I, Part C – Education of Migratory Children
- Title I, Part D – Programs for Neglected and Delinquent Children
- Title II, Part A – Supporting Effective Instruction
- Title II, Part D – Enhancing Education Through Technology
- Title III, Part A – Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient (LEP) and Immigrant Students
- Title IV, Part A – Student Support and Academic Enrichment
- Title IV, Part B - 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- Title V, Part B – Rural Education Initiative
- Individuals with Disabilities ACT (IDEA) – Programs for Exceptional Students
- Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Act – Vocational Education Programs
- Title IX, Part C McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) and State Professional Learning.
- Emergency Relief Funds CARES Act, CRRSA Act, ARP Act

Employees shall disclose waste, fraud, abuse and corruption to the appropriate authorities.

Purpose: To ensure that the reporting of any acts of suspicious waste, fraud, abuse and/or corruption activity, the Newton County Office of Federal Programs ensures employees, clients and providers of confidential channels to report said activities.

Definitions:

Waste: Defined as the intentional or unintentional, thoughtless or careless expenditure, consumption, mismanagement, use, or squandering of district, state, or federal resources to the detriment or potential detriment of the district. Waste also includes incurring unnecessary costs as a result of inefficient or ineffective practices, systems, or controls.

Fraud – The intentional deception perpetrated by an individual or individuals, or an organization or organizations, either internal or external to federal, state, or local governments, which could result in a tangible or intangible benefit to themselves others, or the district, state, or federal governments. Fraud includes a false representation of a matter of fact, whether by words or by conduct, by false or misleading statements, or by

concealment of that which should have been disclosed, which deceives and is intended to deceive.

Abuse: Defined as excessive or improper use of a thing, or to employ something in a manner contrary to the natural or legal rules for its use; intentional destruction, diversion, manipulation, misapplication, maltreatment or misuse of resources; extravagant or excessive use as to abuse one's position or authority. Abuse can occur in financial or non-financial settings.

Corruption: Defined as dishonest or fraudulent conduct by those in power, typically involving bribery. The process by which something, typically a word or expression, is changed from its original use or meaning to one that is regarded as erroneous or debased.

Ethics: The Code of Ethics for Educators defines the professional behavior of educators in Georgia and serves as a guide to ethical conduct. The Professional Standards Commission has adopted standards that represent the conduct generally accepted by the education profession. The code defines unethical conduct justifying disciplinary sanction and provides guidance for protecting the health, safety and general welfare of students and educators, and assuring the citizens of Georgia a degree of accountability within the education profession.

Employees shall practice good stewardship of District financial resources, including timely reporting of fraudulent expenditures.

Statement of Administrative Regulations: Newton County's Office of Federal Programs thoroughly and expeditiously investigates any reported cases of suspected waste, fraud, abuse and/or corruption activity to determine if disciplinary, financial recovery and/or criminal action should be taken.

Confidentiality: All reports of suspicious waste, fraud, abuse and/or corruption activity suspect fraud must be handled under the strictest confidentiality. Only those directly involved in the investigation should be given information. Informants may remain anonymous but should be encouraged to cooperate with the investigators and should provide as much detail and evidence of alleged fraudulent act as possible.

Procedures and Responsibilities:

1. Anyone suspecting any acts of waste, fraud, abuse and/or corruption activity concerning federal programs should report their concerns to the appropriate Federal Program's Director for Newton County School System at 770-787-1330.
2. Any employee with Newton County Board of Education (temporary staff, full-time staff and contractors) who receives a report of suspected fraudulent activity must report this information within the next business day. Employees have the responsibility to report suspected waste, fraud, abuse and/or corruption activity. All reports can be made in confidence.
3. The Newton County Board of Education shall conduct investigations of employees, providers, contractors, or vendors.
4. If necessary you will be contacted for additional information.

Newton County School System
Complaint Procedures for Parents and Students
Revised July 1, 2023

Grounds for a Complaint

Any individual, organization or agency ("complainant") may file a complaint with the Newton County School System (NCSS) if that individual, organization or agency believes and alleges that the NCSS is violating a Federal statute or regulation. The complaint must allege a violation that occurred not more than one (1) year prior to the date that the complaint is received unless a longer period is reasonable because the violation is considered systemic or ongoing.

Federal Programs for Which Complaints Can Be Filed

- Title I, Part A – Programs for Disadvantaged Children
- Title I, Part A –School Improvement 1003 (a)
- Title I, Part A - Academic Achievement Awards
- Title I, Part A - Foster Care Program
- Title I, Part A - Family-School Partnership Program
- Title I, Part C – Education of Migratory Children
- Title I, Part D – Programs for Neglected and Delinquent Children
- Title II, Part A – Supporting Effective Instruction
- Title II, Part D – Enhancing Education Through Technology
- Title III, Part A – Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient (LEP) and Immigrant Students
- Title IV, Part A – Student Support and Academic Enrichment
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- Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Act – Vocational Education Programs
- Title IX, Part A McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) and State Professional Learning.

An LEA accepting federal funds agrees to adopt local written procedures for the receipt and resolution of complaints alleging violations of law in the administration of covered programs. Therefore, for complaints originating at the local level, a complaint should not be filed with the Georgia Department of Education until every effort has been made to resolve the issue through local written complaint procedures.

Filing a Complaint

A complaint must be made in writing and signed by the complainant. The complaint must include the following:

- A statement that the NCSS has violated a requirement of a Federal statute or regulation that applies to an applicable program;

- The date on which the violation occurred;
- The facts on which the statement is based and the specific requirement allegedly violated (include citation to the Federal statute or regulation);
- A list of the names and telephone numbers of individuals who can provide additional information;
- Whether a complaint has been filed with any other government agency, and if so, which agency;
- Copies of all applicable documents supporting the complainant's position; and

The address of the complainant:
The complaint must be addressed to:

Newton County Board of Education
Appropriate Federal Program's Director
2109 Newton Drive, NE
Covington, GA 30015

The appropriate Federal Programs' Director will address all initial complaints. In the event that the concern is not resolved, a formal written complaint can then be sent to the Chief Strategy and Support Services Officer.

Investigation of Formal Complaint
Within ten (10) days of receipt of the complaint, the Chief Strategy and Support Services Officer or his or her designee will issue a Letter of Acknowledgement to the complainant that contains the following information:

- The date the NCSS received the complaint.
- How the complainant may provide additional information.
- A statement of the ways in which the NCSS may investigate or address the complaint.
- Any other pertinent information.

Right of Appeal
If an individual, organization or agency is aggrieved by the final decision of the NCSS, that individual, organization or agency has the right to request review of the decision by the Georgia Department of Education:

Georgia Department of Education
Office of Legal Services
205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive, SE
2052 Twin Tower East
Atlanta, GA 30334

Newton County School System
Complaint Form - Federal Programs

Name (Complainant):
Mailing Address:
Phone Number (home): **Phone Number (work):**
Agency/agencies complaint is being filed against:
Date on which violation occurred:
Statement that the Newton County School System has violated a requirement of a Federal statute or regulation that applies to an applicable program (include citation to the Federal statute or regulation) (attach additional sheets if necessary):
The facts on which the statement is based and the specific requirement allegedly violated (attach additional sheets if necessary):