



The Parent Post

Parent and Family Engagement, Title I

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Welcome to The Parent Post! This newsletter is published four times per year for students and families being served with Title I funds at Douglas County Schools. These schools include Annette Winn Elementary, Beulah Elementary, Bright Star Elementary, Burnett Elementary, Chestnut Log Middle, Eastside Elementary, Factory Shoals Elementary, Lithia Springs Elementary, North Douglas Elementary, Stewart Middle, Sweetwater Elementary, Turner Middle and Youth Villages - Inner Harbour Campus. For more information, please visit dcssga.org or contact Patti Sullivan at (770) 651-2118 or email patti.sullivan@dcssga.org

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Parent Engagement During a Pandemic

By Meagan Russell, 4th Grade Teacher, Bright Star Elementary School

Parent involvement is key to a child’s success throughout their thirteen years in school. The term, “it takes a village” is truer now more than ever before. With the world still being in the midst of a pandemic, our children have been affected in so many ways. From not being able to socialize with peers and friends, to not having a face to face learning environment that drives their education, to having to have parents be both mom and dad and teacher, our children have had to adjust their entire lifestyles to something new and unknown. Parents being involved and making the changes easier is crucial to a child’s development. There are many different ways that parents can be involved with their child other than just the day to day activities that we are used to doing!

Parents can change a simple baking task into a learning opportunity! Why not ask your junior chef at home to help you prepare dinner? Have your child measure, mix, bake, stir, or whatever you may need and ask them questions. How many cups are in a gallon? How hot does the stove need to be to boil water? If we heat up the butter, will it melt to a liquid? Or stay solid? I need to set the Jello. How can I turn the Jello into a different state? These are just a few ways that you can be involved with your child and help them learn all at the same time!

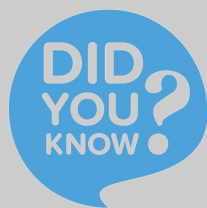
Typically, the Saturday and Sunday paper gets delivered to your home. What better way to practice reading with your child and keep them up to date on current events then to ask them to read the morning paper to you while you are making breakfast! Listening to your child read, helping them with tricky words, and talking about what is happening in the world is a great way to bond and show your child that you are involved. While you are listening to your child read, ask questions, check for understanding, laugh about something that they read! Newspaper reading is a great way to help your child read and show them that there are more than just books to read!

There is more than one way to skin a cat! Being an involved parent in these difficult times is important to the success of your child and will impact their future.

Parents do not have to just visit the book fair, work the concession stand at a sporting event, or join your child for lunch. There are so many different things that parents and students can do together that will help students learn and also allow for quality parent involvement!



November is Parent Engagement Month! Get Involved!



Research suggests that family-school partnerships not only strengthen families and increase student achievement, but also improve schools and build healthy communities. Students with engaged families, regardless of demographics, are more likely to develop confidence, have better social skills, earn higher grades and test scores, have fewer behavior problems, graduate and go on to post-secondary studies.

Are you eligible for the Advance Child Tax Credit and/or the increased Child Tax Credit for the 2021 tax year? Please see below for resources.

Frequently asked questions: [ENGLISH](#) [SPANISH](#) [CHINESE](#) [RUSSIAN](#) [HAITIAN CREOLE](#)

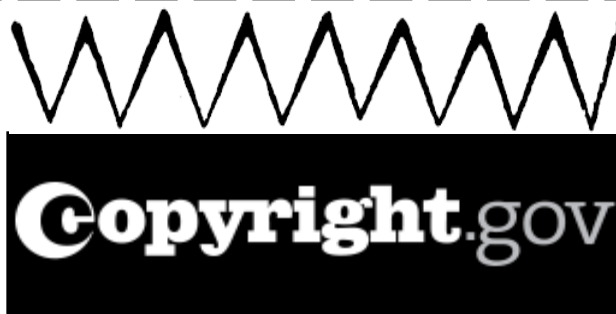
YouTube videos: Here's Who Will Get Advance Payments of the Child Tax Credit
[ENGLISH](#) [SPANISH](#) [CHINESE](#)

For additional information and resources, please visit this website:
[2021 Child Tax Credit and Advance Child Tax Credit Payments: Resources and Guidance](#)

What is copyright piracy? The illegal activity of copying and selling a book, film, music, etc. for which you do not own the copyright or the act of illegally reproducing or disseminating copyrighted material, such as computer programs, books, music, and films.

Consequences for violations of the copyright laws. There can be civil penalties or criminal penalties for copyright piracy. There is also the risk of damaging professional and personal reputations.

For more information about the harms of copyright piracy, please click [HERE](#).



HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD SUCCEED IN SCHOOL?

ELEMENTARY

1. Support Homework expectations
2. Attend back to school night and parent nights
3. Get involved
4. Make sure your child attends school
5. Attend parent-teacher conferences

For more information, please click [here](#).

MIDDLE

1. Support Homework expectations
2. Teach organizational skills
3. Stay involved
4. Make attendance a priority
5. Know disciplinary and bullying policies.

For more information, please click [here](#).

HIGH

1. Support Homework expectations
2. Visit the school and district websites
3. Utilize Parent Portal
4. Offer help with studying
5. Attend college and career planning events.

For more information please click [here](#).

Success in School Begins at Home

By Julie King, ESOL Teacher, Annette Winn Elementary School

The school year is off to a great start! Now that our English Learners have settled in with new teachers, routines, and maybe even new schools, it is time to think about helping your child succeed. Of course, all parents want their children to do well in school. How can you help your English Learner?

Although English Learners need different things at different ages, some things are important for all students. All students benefit from being well-rested. Please try to make sure your child is sleeping for 8 hours each night. English Learners need a good breakfast to help their brains work, so make sure your child arrives at school in time for breakfast, or eats breakfast at home. Talking about school in a positive way is also important for students. Remind your child that school is a wonderful place to learn new things!

Reading to your English Learner is one of the best ways to help him or her succeed in school. When your child is in Kindergarten, First, and Second Grade, you should read to them daily. Point out the letter of the week or sight words that your child is working on. If your child is not reading yet, you can have your child echo (repeat) the words you read. If your child is already reading, you should listen to him read to you! When your English Learner is in Third, Fourth, and Fifth Grade it is still a great idea to read to them and listen to them read. Talk about the characters in the story, and ask your child about her favorite part. If you have English Learners in Middle School or High School, ask them about the books they are reading. Encourage them to read for pleasure.

Teachers give homework so that students can practice what they have learned in school. English Learners in Kindergarten, First Grade, and Second Grade need a lot of parental support with homework. These students are still focused on basic skills, like learning sight words, reading fluently, counting, addition, and subtraction. Sit with your child as they complete homework tasks, but make sure your child is doing the work! English Learners in Third, Fourth, and Fifth Grades still need your help to stay organized and make sure all assignments are completed. Memorizing multiplication facts is a very important part of math for these students, so help your child practice those facts! When your English Learner is in Middle School or High School, it is still important to ask them about homework. These students may need supplies for a project, or time to work on the computer. Talk to them about what they are learning in school, and encourage them to complete their work.



Remember that your child's teachers want to help! If you have questions or concerns, contact a teacher for assistance. We all need to work together as a team to help all English Learners to be successful.

Resources for Parents of English Learners!

The Douglas County School System has posted new resources for parents of English Learners on our website. Our goal is to provide effective outreach to parents of our English Learners and to assist them in being involved in their child's education. Please visit our website [here](#) or scan this QR code to access the website with the resources listed.



U P C O M I N G W O R K S H O P S

Parents of children being served with Title I funds may attend any workshop, regardless of location. Please note: please check the schedule to determine if the parent meetings/workshops will be virtual or in-person. For additional meeting information, please contact your child's school at the listed phone numbers below.

Annette Winn Elementary School Parent Resource Center

3536 Bankhead Highway, Lithia Springs, GA 30122
(770) 651-3100 awes.dcssga.org

STEAM Night (VIRTUAL)

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Organized by our Science Department, the AWES STEAM Night is our family-friendly academic night focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. STEAM teaches important life skills such as critical thinking and problem-solving by sparking curiosity and encouraging further investigation. This event will be VIRTUAL, allowing our families to rotate through four 15-minute breakout rooms (2 hands-on activities and 2 technology-centered activities). Families will sign up in advance to the Google Classroom and be given a list of household supplies to have ready in order to participate in the hands-on activities.

Beulah Elementary School Parent Resource Center

1150 Burnt Hickory Road, Douglasville, GA 30134
(770) 651-3300 bees.dcssga.org

Next parent workshop coming soon!

Visit the Parent Resource Center or see the next newsletter for more information.

Bright Star Elementary School Parent Resource Center

6300 John West Road, Douglasville, GA 30134
(770) 651-3400 bses.dcssga.org

STEM Night

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 5:00 PM

Parents will be provided the opportunity to do experiments and tasks in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math. Parents will see how each grade level has standards that fit into all of these categories.

Burnett Elementary School Parent Resource Center

8277 Connally Drive, Douglasville, GA 30134
(770) 651-3500 bues.dcssga.org

Writing Expo

Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 5:30 PM

Families will visit their child's classroom to view the writing of their child, gain insight on how to help their child at home, and celebrate the progress that has been made. Preparation will also begin for the Young Authors writing contest.

Chestnut Log Middle School Parent Resource Center

2544 Pope Road, Douglasville, GA 30135
(770) 651-5100 clms.dcssga.org

Homework and Study Skills

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 6:00 PM

The Homework and Study Skills workshop will provide and equip students and parents with the tools and strategies needed for academic success.

Eastside Elementary School Parent Resource Center

8266 Connally Drive, Douglasville, GA 30134
(770) 651-3800 eses.dcssga.org

Math Workshop (VIRTUAL)

Thursday, November 11, 2021 at 5:30 PM

Families will participate in stimulating Math activities that will connect learning from school to home.

Factory Shoals Elementary School Parent Resource Center

2375 Mount Vernon Road, Lithia Springs, GA 30122
(770) 651-3900 fes.dcssga.org

Next parent workshop coming soon!

Visit the Parent Resource Center or see the next newsletter for more information.

Lithia Springs Elementary School Parent Resource Center

6946 Florence Drive, Lithia Springs, GA 30122
(770) 651-4100 lses.dcssga.org

Math Night (VIRTUAL)

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Come join us virtually for our Math Night! We will have different activities for you to participate in with your students. We can't wait to see you there!

North Douglas Elementary School Parent Resource Center

1630 Dorris Road, Douglasville, GA 30134
(770) 651-4800 ndes.dcssga.org

Literacy Night (Fall in Love with Reading)

Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 5:00 PM

Join us for an exciting meeting that will focus on reading and literacy skills and strategies.

Stewart Middle School Parent Resource Center

8138 Malone Street, Douglasville, GA 30134
(770) 651-5400 sms.dcssga.org

Literacy Night

Thursday, November 11, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Learn more about literacy and the importance of reading in middle school.

Sweetwater Elementary School Parent Resource Center

2505 East County Line Road, Lithia Springs, GA 30122
(770) 651-4600 swes.dcssga.org

Social Studies Night

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Families will participate in games and activities that are based on the essential knowledge required at each grade level to meet the Georgia Performance Standards for Social Studies. We'll end the evening with hot chocolate and a story.

Turner Middle School Parent Resource Center

7101 Turner Drive, Lithia Springs, GA 30122
(770) 651-5500 tms.dcssga.org

Science Night (VIRTUAL)

Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Our Science Night will afford parents an opportunity to view some of their students' science exhibits, as well as, expose parents to some of the scientific concepts their students are learning in an entertaining and engaging setting.

