



2023-2024

**David C. Barrow Elementary School**

100 Pinecrest Drive

Athens, GA 30605

(706) 546-2676

[www.clarke.k12.ga.us/barrow](http://www.clarke.k12.ga.us/barrow)

*Plan Revised Aug 2023*

**What is Title One?**

David C. Barrow Elementary School is identified as a Title One school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act. Title One is designed to support state and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards and to reinforce and enhance efforts to improve teaching and learning for students. Title One programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parental involvement. All Title One schools must jointly develop with all parents a written parental involvement policy.

# Family Engagement Plan

**What is it?**

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

Barrow invites families, staff, and stakeholders to attend our annual Title One Family Engagement Input Planning meeting every spring to review and revise this Family Engagement Plan as well as the school-wide plan, our family-school compact, and the parental involvement budget. This information is posted on our school website for parents to view and feedback is accepted throughout the year. All parent feedback will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. Families can also give feedback during family engagement events, at school activities, through direct contact with staff and administration, and during Fall and Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences.

**Who is it for?**

All students participating in the Title One, Part A program and their families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Barrow will provide full opportunity for the participation of all parents including those speaking limited English, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children. Information about revision opportunities will come home in the Monday folder.

**Where is it available?**

The plan is found online in the "For Families<Family Engagement" section of the school's website. It is also provided to all parents at Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences and is available anytime in the school's Family Resource Center, which is located across from the front office.

## Family-School Compact

Barrow and our families will develop a family-school compact. It's an agreement which parents, teachers and students develop that explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compact will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback obtained throughout the year from parents, students, and teachers as well as during the Title One Input Planning meeting in the spring. The family-school compact is available on the school website, in the Family Resource Center, or by contacting our Family Engagement Specialist

Katherine Byrne at [byrnek@clarke.k12.ga.us](mailto:byrnek@clarke.k12.ga.us) or  
706-546-2676 x38326.

## Let's Get Together!

Barrow will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parental involvement, to support a partnership between the school, families, and the community, and in order to improve student academic achievement. They will be at varying times and days in order to provide sufficient opportunities for all stakeholders to participate, listen, and be heard.

- New Parent Orientation - July 31, 2023
- Open House - July 31, 2023
- Local School Governance Team meetings monthly- Guests welcome
- K-2 Curriculum Night - August 29, 2023
- PreK, 3-5 Curriculum Night- August 31, 2023
- Annual Title One Meeting - September 26, 2023
- Fall Parent Teacher Conferences- October 11-12, 2023
- Family Engagement Input Planning Meeting - April 2024
- Rising Kindergarten Parent meeting- Spring 2024
- Clarke Middle School tour and Q&A panel- Spring 2024
- 5th grade Moving On Day- May, 2024

Read Class Dojo messages, Monday principal letters and team/teacher newsletters for calendar events and programs that are available throughout the year.

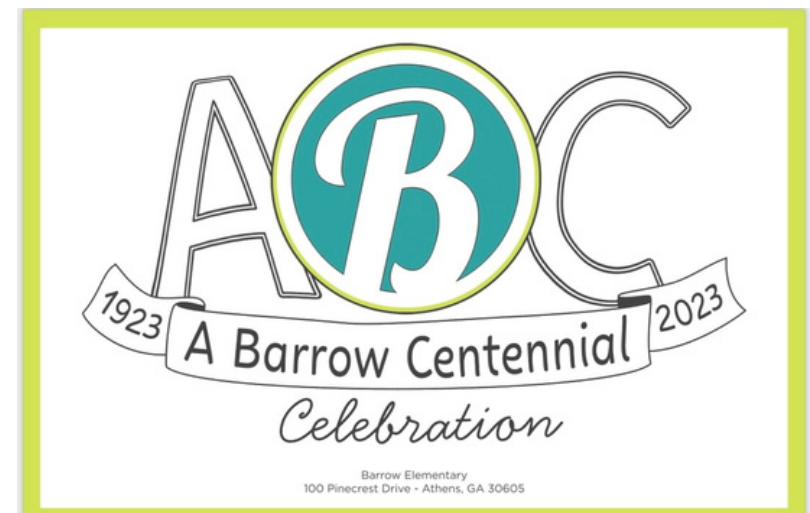


## 2023-2024 District Goals

- Connected Culture
- Optimized Talent
- Thriving Students

## 2023-2024 School Goals

- Increase student performance in reading
- Increase student performance in math
- Increase students' social-emotional skills
- Increase student engagement through Buddies are Brave program



### **Barrow Elementary Supports Our Families and Students**

Barrow will take the following measures to promote and support parents as an important foundation of the school, to strengthen the school and reach our school goals.

- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish whenever possible in newsletters and on the school's website.
- Provide training for staff on strategies to improve communication with parents in order to increase family engagement. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled staff meetings.
- Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school-wide events, activities, curriculum, and assessments through school announcements, e-mails, flyers, websites, social media and our school sign.
- Use feedback from 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.
- Hold transition meetings in the spring for parents of rising kindergarteners and rising 6th graders.
- Invite parents to help develop the Family-School Compact at events such as the Title One Input Planning Meeting, Annual Title One Meeting, PTA Meetings, and Parent-Teacher Conferences in the fall and spring. During Fall Conferences parents will receive the compact, discuss its contents with their child's teacher, and all parties will sign. During Spring Conferences the compact will be revisited to assess its impact on learning at home.
- Collect feedback from parents at all events. Provide families ample opportunities to have their voices heard through multiple means of communication and ensure families are aware of school happenings through calendars, Class Dojo, emails, phone calls, and online postings.

### **Family Resource Room**

The Family Resource Room is available Monday – Friday 7:15 am – 3:15 pm to families to check out books, study materials, find important Barrow information and use the desk top computer to find educational resources.

Please contact Katherine Byrne, our Family Engagement Specialist, for more information. 706-543-2676 x 38326 or [byrnek@clarke.k12.ga.us](mailto:byrnek@clarke.k12.ga.us)

### **Family Involvement**

Barrow believes that family involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, meaningful communication regarding student academic learning and other school activities in order to ensure parents:

- Play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- Are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- 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.

Barrow Elementary is committed to helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please contact Katherine Byrne, our Family Engagement Specialist, if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs.

## Parental Involvement Standards

Barrow 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

## Barrow Elementary PTA

Barrow Elementary invites all parents to join the Parent Teacher Association to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The organization will meet several times during the school year, but parents can also submit their ideas or suggestions at any school activities and meetings, as well as through parent surveys and direct communication with school staff and administration. If you would like to learn more about the PTA, email [barrowpta@gmail.com](mailto:barrowpta@gmail.com).



## Stay Connected!

**Join your child's Class Dojo.** Download the app or connect through the web. This is an excellent way to be in touch with your child's teacher and to receive class and school announcements.

**Monday folder and Dr. Sabatini's weekly principal e-mail:** Look for the Monday folder from your child's teacher and the weekly e-mail update from Dr. Sabatini which she typically sends on Mondays. She shares school news, celebrations, event information, and ways to help your child in school. Her letter is emailed to family members identified as guardians by the school.

**Barrow Elementary is on social media.** Find us on Facebook and Instagram. Our school, media center and school sign have pages: @barrowelementary, @barrowmediacenter, and @barrowschoolsign

**Find information on Barrow's website.** It contains school and district calendars, links to social media, academic support information, a staff directory, and everything you need to be a part of the Barrow Buddy community. Find it at [www.clarke.k12.ga.us/barrow](http://www.clarke.k12.ga.us/barrow).

## Questions or Comments?

**Looking for a specific staff member?** Find a complete list of staff and their emails on our school website. [www.clarke.k12.ga.us/barrow](http://www.clarke.k12.ga.us/barrow)

**Not sure who to contact?** Reach out to Katherine Byrne, Barrow's Family Engagement Specialist, at [byrnek@clarke.k12.ga.us](mailto:byrnek@clarke.k12.ga.us) or 706-546-2676, ext. 38326.