

# Dunbar Magnet Middle School

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**Parent Information Packet**

**2015-2016**

**Principal- Eunice Thrasher**

**447-2602**

**Parent Facilitator-John Madlock**

**447-2630**

**PTSA President Kevin Williams**

**952-4331**

## Parent Involvement Plan

**School Mission: Dunbar faculty and staff are committed to doing whatever it takes to prepare students to become critical thinkers, creative learners, and responsible citizens in a safe, secure, and globally diverse environment.**

Dunbar is currently a Focus school. We are a school-wide Title I school for grades 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. Seventy-five (75%) of our students are on free and reduced lunch.

### **Parent Involvement Committee Members include:**

Principal Eunice Thrasher

Facilitator – John Madlock, Facilitator, Dunbar, 447-2630

LaPrisha Bennett, Parent

Jason Raymond, Staff

Cassandra Green, Parent

Anthony Lockhart, Staff

Kevin Williams, Parent

Allen Green, Parent

LaSheena Gordon, Staff

Natalie Holliman, Staff

Tanna Wierman, Staff

Linda Davis, Staff

Gregory Shavers, Staff

Andrea Dettmen, Staff

Clifton Woodley, Staff (AP)

Robin Kratze, Staff

Charles Walker, Staff (AP)

Donterio Porter, Staff

Gertrude Stubblefield Community

### **Dunbar communicates with parents in the following ways to increase parental involvement and to support classroom instruction by:**

- Distributing a newsletter developed by school staff, principal, and the parent teacher association which will include school news and activities, district events, and parenting tips. Mr. Porter 447-2685
- Distributing parent involvement surveys at the beginning of the year to help develop goals and objectives for the school year. This survey is distributed by the parent facilitator during registration. Mr. Madlock 447-2630
- Distributing volunteer opportunities to all parents. (Mr. Madlock 447-2630)
- Utilizing the school website and EDLINE to communicate pertinent school information. EDLINE provides parents access to their child's grades and parents may use EDLINE to communicate with their child's teacher. Ms. B. Rowe 447-2625
- Utilizing student's agendas, e-mails, and telephone calls to communicate individual student's academic and behavioral progress. **All Classroom Teachers**

- Providing two parent teacher conferences per school year for individual students to discuss academic and behavioral progress. Principal Mrs. E. Thrasher 447-2600 & all classroom teachers
- Providing an additional PTSA website. PTSA President Mr. Kevin Williams, 952-4331 & Ms. Bonita Rowe 447-2625

**Dunbar will plan the following activities to improve parental involvement:**

Sixth Grade Orientation	Aug. 17, 2015	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade AP & Staff
Open House	Sept. 10, 2015	School Staff
Book Fair Volunteer	Sept 7-16, 2015	W.Ward-Blasingame Librarian
Paint Party Night	Oct. 29, 2015	K. Milton, Art
Bring a Vet to School Day	Nov.19, 2015	School Staff
Math Night	Nov. 2, 2015	N.Holliman
Parent Teacher Conferences	2015 / 2016	LRSB
Gifted/Talented Night	Dec. 3, 2015	Dr. Brown, G/T Staff
Health Fair	Jan. 7, 2016	Baptist Hospital
Literacy Night	Jan 21, 2016	N. Weaver
Special Education Night	Feb. 11, 2016	L. Davis/ A. Hellekson
Technology Night	Feb. 25, 2016	B. Rowe
Game Fest	March 17, 2016	All Staff
Lunch Bunch	May 5, 2016	Staff and Parents
PTA Meetings	Monthly	PTA Pres. Mr. Williams
Parent Involvement Meetings	Weekly	Raymond, Madlock
Field Trips	Ongoing	School Staff

**Dunbar provides volunteer opportunities and allows parents to select activities and/or events of interest. Procedures for various involvement opportunities will be briefly outlined by previous volunteers or the PTA in the following ways:**

- Meetings will be held for parents of 6<sup>th</sup> graders to help them understand the move to middle school
- Workshops are provided to parents on how to incorporate appropriate learning activities in the home environment, the use of and access to the Department of Education website tools for parents, assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation and other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Department of Education
- The parent facilitator or trained designee will provide no fewer than two hours of professional development for teachers designed to enhance the understanding of effective parental involvement strategies.

**Dunbar and the PTA have developed a school-parent-compact:**

- This compact will outline how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards. All Stakeholders will sign the compact.

**Dunbar provides opportunities for parents to be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of the school wide ACSIP Plan to engage them in the decision-making process in regards to student achievement in the following ways: (Mrs. N. Holliman 447-2653)**

- Involve parents on school improvement planning committees. Parents and staff will be provided with a brief training concerning this process by the school principal.
- Take advantage of the community resources for school improvement purposes.
- The Parent Teacher Association will foster parental and community involvement within the school.

**Dunbar provides the following resources for parents by:**

- Providing a parent center with easy accessibility to parents
- Encouraging parents to utilize the media center as a resource to help access EDLINE to check student progress
- Distributing informational packets at check in that include a copy of the school's parental involvement plan, suggestions of ways parents can become involved in their child's education, and information about the system that will be used to allow parents and teachers to communicate (notes, phone calls, e-mail)
- Providing in the informational packet information on the process for resolving parental concerns step by step  
(John Madlock, 447-2630)

**Dunbar engages parents in the evaluation of our parental involvement efforts in the following ways: (John Madlock, 447-2630)**

- Engage parents in the annually evaluation of the parental involvement efforts through an annual evaluation using a needs assessment completed by teachers, parents, and school staff. The parental involvement committee will determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement plan and make changes if warranted.
- Utilize the parent interest surveys to select, plan, and implement parental involvement activities that will be offered throughout the year.
- A parent survey will be distributed at the end of each school year to collect information on parental program effectiveness.
- Utilize the information collected to determine which activities to continue or discontinue.

**Dunbar engages parents in the evaluation of our parental involvement efforts in the following ways:**

- The Annual Title I Meeting is planned for September 10, 2015. Parents will be notified to attend Annual Title I Meeting to discuss the ACSIP Plan and parent Involvement Plan.
- Contact Principal Eunice Thrasher and Mr. John Madlock regarding the Title I meeting

The National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS) invites schools to use research-based approaches to organize and sustain excellent programs of family and community involvement that will increase student success in school. Dunbar MS collaborates and supports the Central-East Cluster Team. Partnership Programs focus on the six “keys to improvement” identified by educational researchers as the critical components of home/school/community connections.

**Six Types of Involvement: Keys to Successful Partnerships**

1. **Parenting:** Assist families with parenting skills and setting home conditions to support children as students. Also, assist schools to better understand families.
2. **Communicating:** Conduct effective communications from school-to-home and from home-to-school about school programs and student progress.
3. **Volunteering:** Organize volunteers and audiences to support the school and students. Provide volunteer opportunities in various locations and at various times.
4. **Learning at Home:** Involve families with their children on homework and other curriculum-related activities and decisions.
5. **Decisions Making:** Include families as participants in school decisions, and develop parent leaders and representatives.
6. **Collaborating with the Community:** Coordinate resources and services from the community for families, students, and the school, and provide services to the community.

## Reading With Your Child

Good Readers are made on the lap of parents'.

*20 minutes a day is all it takes to build key reading*

### 6 Ways to build better reading during the middle school years

1. Create reading habits and read daily
2. Talk about pictures and ask questions while reading.
3. Read a book together before dinner or bed
4. Share different kinds of books, magazines, stories, and, journals.
5. Read favorite books and magazines together again and again.
6. Read with expression...it's more fun

### **PTSA OFFICERS**

Dunbar Magnet Middle School 2015-2016 PTSA Officers

President- Kevin Williams

Vice-President-John Madlock (teacher rep)

Secretary- Kashayla Bridges

Membership Coordinator-Gertrude Stubblefield

**PTSA dues: \$5 parents/teachers and \$3 students**

## **Dunbar Middle School Parent Interest Survey**

What are your hopes and dreams for your child?

How can you partner with your child's teacher to ensure that the academic hopes and dreams that you have for your child will come true?

What day(s) will you volunteer in your child's classroom this month?

What are you interested in doing as a volunteer at your child school this school year?

How often will you communicate with the school staff this year about your child's progress both academically and socially?

**Return this survey to:**

**John Madlock, Dunbar Magnet School Parent Involvement Facilitator or Jason Raymond, Parental Involvement Committee Leader**

**Two-way Communication  
Dunbar MS Staff Contact List**



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