

## What is a School-Parent Compact?

A *School-Parent Compact for Achievement* is an agreement that parents, students, and teachers develop together. It explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards.

Effective compacts:

- Link to goals of the school improvement plan
- Focus on student learning skills
- Describe how teachers will help students develop those skills using high-quality instruction
- Share strategies parents can use at home
- Explain how teachers and parents will communicate about student progress
- Describe opportunities for parents to volunteer, observe, and participate in the classroom.

## Jointly Developed

The parents, students, and staff of Varnell Elementary School developed this School-Parent Compact for Achievement. Teachers suggested home learning strategies, parents added ideas to make them more specific, and students told us what would help them learn. Meetings are held annually to review the Compact and make changes based on student needs.

***Parents are welcome to contribute comments at any time.***

**If you would like to volunteer, participate, and/or observe in the classroom**, please contact your child's teacher by sending a message through Remind or e-mail. E-mail addresses are on the school website at <https://www.wcsga.net/ves>.

## Building Partnerships

August 7- Meet Your Teacher (1:00-3:00)

August 21- School Council Meeting 7am

September 21- Breakfast with a Guest

September 27-Title 1 Meeting, Open House

October 23- School Council Meeting 7am

November 8- Family Math Game Night

December 18- School Council Meeting 7am

January 24- Creative Discovery "STEAM" Night

February 25- Creative Discovery Literacy Night

February 26-School Council Meeting 7am

April 23- School Council Meeting 7am

May 23-24- Grade Level Awards Days

## Communication about Student Learning

Varnell Elementary School is committed to frequent two-way communication with families about children's learning. Some of the ways you can expect us to reach you are:

1. Weekly homework folders
2. Monthly "check-in" notes or phone calls
3. Updates on the school website and facebook, as well as current grades in the Parent Portal
4. Parent-teacher conferences in October and March

**Do you have questions about your child's progress?**

Contact your child's teacher by sending a message through Remind or e-mail. E-mail addresses are on the school website at <https://www.wcsga.net/ves>.

## **Varnell** **Elementary School**

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT FOR  
ACHIEVEMENT

2018-2019

Revised 09-07-2018

**Whitfield County Schools**  
*building on a tradition of excellence*

## **First Grade** **Focus**



## **For Student Success**

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# Our Goals for Student Achievement

## DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Whitfield County Schools must submit to the Georgia Department of Education a district improvement plan for approval. The district improvement goals for 2017 – 2018 are:

**Goal 1:** Increase of our graduation rate from 82.4% by three percent to 85.4% over the next three years for all students.

**Goal 2:** Reduce the achievement gap in English language arts.

**Goal 3:** To increase the capacity of all WCS teachers and leaders to enhance student learning through evidence based professional learning.

**Goal 4:** To build capacity within for leadership in Whitfield County Schools through professional learning; establishment of a leadership academy to build capacity for future leadership needs .

## SCHOOL GOALS

**Reading- Students will perform at their highest expected level. ALL students will show increases in their literacy assessment data and in MAP.**

**Math- Students will perform at their highest expected level. All students will show increases in pre to post assessments from the GOE math units and in MAP.**

**When teachers, students, and families work together, we CAN achieve goals!**

# Teachers, Parents, Students – Together for Success

## In the First Grade Classroom

The First Grade team will work with students and their families to support students' success in reading and math. Some of our key connections with families will be:

- Send home a packet explaining Common Core standards and the first grade expectations. Strategize with parents during Open House about utilizing resources at home.
- Communicate the math standards with parents for understanding in the monthly newsletter. Send materials home that will assist practicing these concepts.
- Send a reading bag home with leveled books for children to read at home.
- Communicate regularly with parents using monthly newsletters, Remind, and behavior calendars.

## At Home

Varnell Elementary parents joined staff to develop ideas about how families can support student success.

- Check my child's folder every night.
- Read a book with my child for 20 minutes a day then discuss the genre of the book.
- Utilize the Parent Resource Center located in the Media Center for materials that will support my child's learning.
- Practice learned math standards at home.
- Assist my child with writing a story using various topics in a specific genre, and ensure the story has a clear beginning, middle, and ending.

## Students

Students of VES joined staff to develop ideas about how they can succeed in school. Students thought of the following ideas to make connections between learning at home and at school:

"I pledge to do my best in reading, math, and all the rest. I promise to obey the rules in my class and in our school. I'll respect myself and others too, I'll expect the best in all I do. I'm here to learn all I can, to try my best and be all I am."

I'll do this by:

- Reading my books in my reading bag every night.
- Practice my sight words every day.
- Practice counting at home every night.
- If possible, Complete 1 activity per week on Learning Odyssey.

***Family Nights are a great place for families to learn together!***

***(see the back of this brochure for more information)***