

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: [Lisa Jones](mailto:Lisa.Jones@wcs.ga.gov) at [706-694-3471](tel:706-694-3471) or go to our school website and click on the **Parent Button.**

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 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 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 [706-694-3471](tel:706-694-3471) or e-mail. E-mail addresses are on the school website at <http://www.wcsga.net/ves>.

Varnell **Elementary School**

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT FOR
ACHIEVEMENT

2018-2019

Revised 8-21-18

Whitfield County Schools
building on a tradition of excellence

Fourth Grade **Focus**



For Student Success

Lisa Jones

4421 Highway 2, Varnell, GA 30721

706-694-3471

<http://www.wcsga.net/ves>

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 2018-2019 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

Varnell administrators and teachers have studied our student performance data to determine the most important areas of improvement for our school.

Reading-Improve 7 points on MAP Reading test

Math-Improve 11 points on MAP math test

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

Teachers, Parents, Students – Together for Success

In the Grade Level Classroom

The fourth grade team will work with students and their families to support students' success. Some of our key connections with families will be:

- Send home math and reading parent vocabulary reference sheets.
- Offer skill sheets to help increase fluency, comprehension, and math skills as needed.
- Send home flash cards, as needed.
- Provide translated documents. Be open for conferences/phone calls/ and emails.
- Send home graded papers that show progress and the skills that need practice.
- Offer math strategies night for parents to ask questions and see exemplars.

At Home

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

- Look for the classroom newsletters and at the student planners. Review graded papers with my child for progress and for needs. Review study guides and spelling words with my child.
- Allow opportunities for my child to utilize Learning Odyssey and check the child's Odyssey Portfolio
- Read books with my child for 20 minutes every day and ask questions.
- Limit technology/screen time

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:

- Read for at least 20 minutes a day in a quiet place and/or to someone in my family.
- Study my flashcards and create games with items at home.
- Set a goal of completing 4-6 Learning Odyssey activities per week.
- Discuss with my parents what we are learning in class. Go over my homework and graded papers with a parent or someone in my family to show them my progress and what I need to work on at home.
- Review study guides or spelling words with parents throughout the week.

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

(see the back of this brochure for more information)