

Hal Hutchens Elementary School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2025-2026

586 Clonts Road, Douglasville, GA 30134

Phone: 678-838-2683

www.paulding.k12.ga.us

Principal: Ms. Priscilla Smith



Revised: 9/3/25

Hal Hutchens Elementary School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

What is it? Our Parent and Family Engagement Plan is a plan that outlines what we will provide for parents and guardians, and how we will work together, to strengthen the academic success of each child in our school. Our Parent and Family Engagement (P&FE) Plan is based upon school goals for student academic achievement and is developed by parents/guardians and school staff.

How is it revised? Hal Hutchens Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Plan is updated every year with input from parents and school staff. In late winter, a survey will be made available to all parents, and to be taken on-line or on a paper copy that will be sent home to all parents of our students. It will be advertised through bulletins, phone calls, and in parent meetings. The survey will ask for input on the components of the current Parent and Family Engagement Plan and parent engagement opportunities that will take place during the school year and will invite suggestions and input in the development of an updated Parent and Family Engagement Plan and Parent Engagement Budget. Participation from parents will also be sought through responses on feedback forms provided at all parent engagement opportunities, the availability of suggestions through the parent engagement webpage, and meetings planned specifically for developing the plan together. Once the plan is created, it will be presented to parents and school staff (parent engagement meetings, through the school website, and accessibility to paper copies in the school) for final agreement. It will then be introduced as the Parent and Family Engagement Plan at the Annual Title I Parent Involvement Meeting which takes place in early fall of every school year.

Where is it available? Hal Hutchens Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Plan is distributed to all parents/guardians of students in our school, is available on our school website and in our Parent Resource Center. It is written in a language that parents can understand, and translation is available upon request. We strive to make continual progress in working with our parents and welcome any feedback and suggestions throughout the school year.

Parent and Family Engagement Budget— Hal Hutchens Elementary receives funds to support building the capacity for families to be engaged with student learning. Opportunities are offered to all parents/guardians to provide input on how these funds are spent, in spring and early fall. The online Parent Resource Center checkout form provides an opportunity for parents to record requests and/or comments on parent resources.

What is Title I?

Title I is a federally funded program for schools. The funds are used for educational services for children to provide additional support to ensure academic success. The focus of the Title I program is on helping *all* students meet high standards.

Hal Hutchens Elementary is identified as a Title I school as part of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Our Title I program provides the following:

- Teachers who work with students who can benefit from additional support
- Learning resources for students
- Professional learning resources for teachers
- Resources and activities for parents to access as they support their child academically.

Our Goals for Student Achievement

District Goals in 2025-2026

- By May 2026, enhance the quality and effectiveness of professional learning initiatives to empower teachers in positively transforming their instructional practices, thereby directly impacting student achievement.
- By May 2026, cultivate meaningful collaborative opportunities that foster strong relationships and active engagement between District staff, families, and communities, resulting in a positive impact on student achievement.
- Increase student performance in all core content areas by 3% annually as measured by achievement data.

Hal Hutchens Elementary

Goals 2025-2026

Students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade scoring Beginning Learner on the ELA Georgia Milestones Assessment (GMAS) will decrease from 35% on the Spring 2025 administration to 30% on the Spring 2026 administration. The students will Disabilities subgroup of 3rd-5th grade students scoring Developing or higher on the ELA GMAS will increase from 17% on the Spring 2025 administration to 20% on the spring 2026 administration

Students in 3rd-5th grade scoring Developing Learner on the Math GMAS will decrease from 39% on the Spring 2025 administration to 34% on the Spring 2026 administration, moving students to Proficient or Above. The SWD subgroup of 3rd-5th grade students scoring Developing or higher on the Math GMAS will increase from 21% to 24% by Spring 2026.

You are Invited

Together Improving The Learning Environment

Hal Hutchens Elementary will provide the following opportunities to build the capacity for strong parental engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. Meetings and activities will be provided at a variety of times and formats to help accommodate parent/guardian schedules. All parents will receive notification and invitation to events in school newsletters, website, and bulletins/notices. We want you to join us!

Open House – July 29, 2025, at 2pm until 6pm

Meet your child's teacher and all of the Hal Hutchens staff.

Family Nights – Times and grade levels will vary.

We invite you to learn about your student's grade level standards, curriculum, and assessments for the upcoming school year. Families will receive guidance on how to interpret assessment results and will be provided to you on how to create student goals, support your student's learning, track their academic progress, and have fun with virtual learning activities. Georgia Milestones information and resources will be shared with you as well to help prepare your third through fifth grade student.

Annual Title I Meeting- October 2025

We invite you to "Buzz In" to learn about our Title I program, including our Schoolwide School Improvement Plan, Parent Engagement Budget, Family-School Compacts, Parent & Family Engagement Plan, Title I Plan, and parents' rights under Title I.

Parent -Teacher Conferences – October 13-14, 2025 and March 16-17, 2025

We invite you to participate in these opportunities to partner with staff to discuss your student's academic progress.

Spring Planning and Input Meetings – Spring 2026

We invite you to jointly develop our parent engagement budget, Schoolwide Improvement Plan, Family-School Compacts, and Parent, Staff Capacity & Family Engagement Plan.

We invite you to visit our Parent Engagement Webpage (<https://www.paulding.k12.ga.us/Page/1360>) to access meeting resources.

All parents/guardians of students attending Hal Hutchens Elementary are invited to participate in all planned events and activities. Communication will be provided in an understandable language; translation of materials and documents shared with parents/guardians is available upon request and through school website translation.

Definition of Parental Involvement

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. As a school, we will provide opportunities for parents to:

- play an integral role in assisting your child's learning
- be actively involved in your child's education at school
- be full partners in your child's education
- be included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of your child
- be involved in other offered informative activities.

School staff is available for meeting, and appointments may be arranged by contacting Hal Hutchens Elementary at 678-838-2683.

Family -School Compacts

Hal Hutchens Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Plan includes a Compact, which is developed jointly by staff, parents/guardians, and students. The Compact is an agreement that explains how parents/guardians, teachers and students will work together to make sure that every student is supported in reaching academic success. All parents of students at Hal Hutchens Elementary School are invited to review the Compact and provide feedback and input every year. Revisions are made and are based on input from parents, students and teachers. They are discussed throughout the school year and serve as a reminder of our commitment to action in supporting each student at Hal Hutchens. All parents keep a copy of the Compact. The Compact will be referenced throughout the year by students, parents and teachers at parent engagement meetings, student goal setting, and in designing lessons.

Hal Hutchens Elementary is Reaching Outside the Hive!

Hal Hutchens Elementary will take the following measures to promote and support parents as equal partners in supporting student achievement:

- ✓ Provide requested information related to school meetings and programs in English and Spanish. The request may be made to the child's teacher, to the front office, or to the Title I Department. The request can be communicated in the child's agenda, via phone, via email, or in person.
Our address is: 586 Clonts Rd, Douglasville, GA 30134
Phone 678-838-2683
Email: pdsmith@paulding.k12.ga.us
- ✓ Provide professional learning with staff on parent engagement practices which include parent conferences, use of parent resource center materials, and effective communication strategies.
- ✓ Establish a partnership with local Pre-K programs to provide school information and transitional support for parents to more fully participate in the education of their child.
- ✓ Provide school's academic standards, curriculum explanation, assessments, and ways to monitor their child's progress through the school websites, newsletters, and during meetings.
- ✓ Inform all families and community stakeholders on a consistent basis information about school wide events and activities, using Blackboard Notification System, Facebook, Class Dojo, newsletters, flyers, invitations, and school website.
- ✓ Use parent feedback obtained through parent meetings and surveys to determine professional learning needs of our staff as it pertains to parent engagement.
- ✓ Supply parents with necessary materials at conferences, meetings, and Family Nights to help parents work with their child to improve their achievement.
- ✓ Communicate with local stakeholders to increase participation and awareness of the school family engagement plan and activities through the school website.
- ✓ Provide parents information and trainings on ways to enhance their education upon request and share information regarding community-based opportunities.
- ✓ Solicit feedback and provide parent support for additional parental engagement activities through the Parent Engagement webpage, feedback forms, and surveys.
- ✓ PCSD will collaborate with local and State institutions for neglected or delinquent children and youth for these students to have the opportunity to meet the same challenging State academic standards as all children in the State. If such students are being educated at a PCSD Title I school, the residential facilities that reside in the school's attendance area will be included in the correspondence and activities outlined in the school's parental involvement plan. A representative from the facilities will serve as a proxy for the parents.

Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Hal Hutchens 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

Parent Engagement is Important

The staff at Hal Hutchens Elementary understands the value and utility of contributions of parents. Staff will participate in meeting with parents/guardians to share grade-level information, conference with parents to share ideas and resources, and will make plans and communicate using student agendas, Class Dojo, email, and grade-level newsletters. We know that working with parents as equal partners and building ties between home and school are vital to student academic achievement!

Regardless of family income or background, students with involved parents are more likely to:

- Earn higher grades and test scores, and enroll in higher-level programs
- Be promoted and pass their classes
- Attend school regularly
- Have better social skills, show improved behavior, and adapt well to school
- Graduate and go on to further education

Our Commitment

At Hal Hutchens Elementary, we support our parents/guardians in attending the parental activities included in this plan. We make every effort to communicate the details of events in several ways, including newsletters, bulletins, phone calls, texts, emails, Facebook, Class Dojo and school web-site postings. Please call or email us if you require further information or assistance to participate.

Hal Hutchens Elementary Title I Team 2025-2026



Annette Watts- Title I Instructional Lead Coach
Julie Holmes- Title I Elementary Family Engagement Coach
Brandi Gore- Title I Teacher
Whitnie Brown- Title I Teacher
Christine McKinney- Title I Family Engagement Team Lead

If this plan is not satisfactory to the parents of students at Hal Hutchens Elementary, the school will submit any parent comments with this plan to Dr. Tameka Walker, Paulding County School District Title I Director at: Dianne Wright Innovation Center, 140 Bethel Church Rd., Hiram, GA 30141

Hal Hutchens Elementary Family Resource Center

Location: Room B103,
Next to the Media Center

Hal Hutchens Elementary is pleased to offer a Family Resource Center! It is filled with resources for parents to borrow (for free) as you work with your student on academic support. Resources are added throughout the year and are chosen based on requests from parents and input from teachers. We feature the latest additions in parent meetings and workshops, and encourage access to the center through flyers, phone calls and the parent engagement webpage.