

Eclectic Middle School

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PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

2009 – 2010



Donna Goodwin, Federal Programs Coordinator

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ELMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.elmoreco.com

COMMUNITY AGENCIES AND SERVICES

<u>Elmore County Board of Education</u>	567-1200
Transportation (Bus Shop)	567-1229
Special Education	567-1224
Federal Programs (Title I)	514-2810

Elmore County Health Department **567-1171**

Services include: Clinical – Immunizations, STD & TB treatment, HIV testing, well child care, family planning, counseling and contraceptives, cancer detection, WIC (Women, Infants and Children) food program, Home Health Care – Nursing Service, nurse’s aid, physical and speech therapy, Vital Statistics – Birth and death certificates

Elmore County Family Resource Center **514-4150** 1-800-770-1311

Student Outreach Services (SOS)-Assists students and families in locating needed social services, literacy, special programs and referrals.

Parent Project-10 week course for parenting strong-willed or out of control adolescents

Alabama Parent Education Center (APEC) **567-2252** www.alabamaparentcenter.com 1-866-532-7660

Brings parents, educators and those who work with families, information about helping children get ready for school and succeed in school, from the early grades through high school.

Alabama Cooperative Extension Service **567-6301**

First Years Count - Is a free parent education program to help families adjust to life with a new child. At monthly meetings a trained parent educator will provide educational lessons that will benefit both parent and child from birth to three years of age.

Domestic Violence Hotline

1-800-650-6522

Domestic violence programs staff telephone hotlines 24 hours a day and all calls are confidential. The statewide telephone number will automatically switch the caller to the nearest local shelter.

211 Connects

**Dial 2-1-1
264-3354**

211 Connects is a 3-digit, easy to remember **FREE** telephone number one can call to receive information on a variety of resources related to community, health, and social services.

Early Childhood & After School Programs

Wetumpka Child Development Center	567-1287
Millbrook Child Development Center	285-9450
Eclectic Child Development Center	541-4532
Holtville Child Development Center	514-5858

21st Century Community Learning Centers

567-1282

Eclectic Middle School	541-2131
Wetumpka Middle School	567-1413
Holtville Middle School	569-1596
Millbrook Middle/Junior High School	285-2100

After school enrichment program. Homework time and physical activities will be provided, as well as academic strengthening. The curriculum is unique at each center.

Emanon Group

567-8541

Offers students worthwhile educational experiences, programs and opportunities that assist with the learning process.

FREE PARENTING RESOURCES

Helping Your Child Series: www.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/hyc.html

10 Ways to Help Your Child Succeed: www.alabamapta.org

Reading activities in up to 10 languages: www.ColorinColorado.org

Learn English FREE: <http://www.usalearns.org/>

PARENTING TIPS

- ❖ Visit your child's school often, even at the high school level. Meet the teachers. Go to school functions such as Open House, PTSO Meetings or volunteer. Remember to always visit the school office first for security reasons.
- ❖ Eat meals at home together. This is a great time to talk with your child.
- ❖ Have books for your child to read at home. Read to your child or listen to tapes of books together and ask them questions about the stories you read to them.
- ❖ Support the school policies, rules and schedules. Talk about these at home in a positive manner.
- ❖ Check the school's website. It will have information about the teachers, principal and staff as well as the school programs.
- ❖ Stay on top of homework. Make sure your child has a quiet place to do homework and finishes it. Setting a regular time may help.
- ❖ Limit the amount of television your child watches to no more than two hours on school nights and monitor the programs they watch.
- ❖ Make sure your child attends school.
- ❖ Set high expectations. Encourage your child to try. Show that mistakes are for learning. Concentrate on improvement, not perfection.
- ❖ Give your child some responsibility. For example feeding their pet.

Parent Involvement Plan

The staff of Eclectic Middle School encourages parent involvement through many activities throughout the year. Parent involvement is encouraged through the following activities:

1. Parent information session at EMS Open House in August.
2. Parent notification of resources available in the Parent Resource Center and times the center is open for parents.
3. Annual Title I Parent Meeting in September.
4. The Breakfast Bunch will meet monthly to discuss school issues with parents.
5. The opportunity to serve on the School Community Council to discuss parent involvement and school-related issues at EMS.
6. Parent-School compacts with students and parents will be discussed, distributed, and signed in September.
7. The STI School Messenger communication system will be used to contact parents of important information and upcoming events.
8. Communication of upcoming events and homework through <http://schoolinsites.com>.
9. Communication of student progress through letters, phone calls, emails and personal contacts.
10. Communication of important information on the school website <http://eclectic.ecm.schoolinsites.com/>.
11. Monitor student grades through STI Home (a \$10 fee /year).
12. Family Fun Night will be held in January to give the parents and students the opportunity to participate in games and activities together.
13. Parents are notified of the school's curriculum.
14. Parents are notified of state standardized testing and testing dates.
15. Parent workshops through Elmore County Parent Involvement Department.
16. Family services through the Elmore County Family Resource Center.
17. Parent Newsletters.
18. Parent survey of the EMS School-Wide Title I program.
19. Fifth Grade Orientation Meeting for Parents and Students in May.
20. PTSO- Parent Teacher Student Organization (no dues required).

During Open House, The Intervention staff will provide brochures and answer any questions about the School-Wide Title I program. Also, a sign up sheet will be available for parents to volunteer at the school. This sign-up sheet will be located on the Title I table. A parent volunteer, Beth Costello, will organize the volunteer program. A Parent Resource Center, located in Room 112 on the 5th-6th Grade Hall, will be provided to offer assistance to parents. Parent computers and resources are available. Hours of operation of the Parent Resource Center are 8:00 am-5:30 pm Monday through Friday of each week. Parents will have the opportunity to learn about school information, student issues, and computer training at the parent resource center. On the night of Open House and the Annual Title I Parent Meeting, a list of available parent resources will be given to parents.

The Annual Title I Parent Meeting will be held in September. At the meeting, the EMS staff will discuss the school's participation in the School-Wide Title I program including the requirements of Title I, parent's right to know and be involved, and an explanation of the one percent set-aside funds for parent involvement and the parent's right to be involved in how funds are spent. The Parent Involvement Plan will be distributed at the meeting.

School-Wide Title I Advisory Committee Meetings will be provided through the Breakfast Bunch Meetings and the School Community Council Meetings. The meetings will be offered at different times to allow working parents to attend. Invitations will be sent to all parents informing them of meetings, school activities, and other related activities. The STI School Messenger communication system will be used to contact parents of important information and upcoming events. All important school information including homework will be posted on **schoolinsites.com** for parents and students.

The Intervention staff can be reached through letters, phone calls, and/or email. Parents will be given a School-Wide Title I brochure, Parent-School Compact, Parent Involvement Booklet, helpful hints brochures, and an open invitation with contact information to discuss problems or concerns of the student or the School-Wide Title I program. Parents are encouraged to contact

the staff with any questions about the School-Wide Title I program.

Parents will be notified of the school's curriculum such as the use the Alabama Course of Study, Elmore County Curriculum Guides, and the Department of Education Website. Parents are given a list of assessments students are responsible for during the school year. The curriculum and assessments will be discussed thoroughly at Open House, Breakfast Bunch, and School Community Council. The Breakfast Bunch will meet monthly to discuss school issues with parents. The School Community Council will meet throughout the school year to discuss and evaluate parent involvement and the School-Wide Title I program at EMS. Family Fun Night will be held in January to give the parents and students the opportunity to participate in games and activities together. In May, the staff of Eclectic Middle School will offer an orientation for upcoming Fifth graders and their parents. This orientation will allow parents and students to tour the school and hear important information about EMS from the administration and staff.

The Intervention staff will use parent and family resources available. Elmore County Family Resource Center, ECFRC, will offer family services to the students. The Title I staff will encourage parent involvement through the program, "Parents Aiding Students Successfully." Parental Involvement funds will be used to purchase supplies for the Parent Resource Center, parent meetings, and parenting brochures. A parent newsletter will be sent out monthly to all parents through the counselor's office, notifying parents of important dates and activities. The Intervention staff will encourage all parent and community involvement.

Progress reports will be sent home every four weeks. A report card will be sent home at the end of each nine-week grading period. This report card will allow the parents to follow the student's progress on grade level. Parents will be asked to complete a parent survey about the School-Wide Title I program. The parent survey will be submitted and reviewed by the Eclectic Middle School staff and discussed thoroughly with the School Community Council. . This survey will allow parents to make

suggestions about the School-Wide Title I program. The School Community Council will use the results of the survey to complete the school needs assessment and form a plan of action for the coming year. The results of the survey along with the school needs assessment will be used to improve the School-Wide Title I program at EMS.

The Elmore County Schools recognize parents as partners in the planning process. Therefore parents are encouraged to submit comments of approval or disapproval of any parental involvement plan or policy. Contact school administrators or Donna Goodwin, the Federal Programs Coordinator, for a letter of discontent and/or disagreement.