



# Sequatchie County Middle School

2023-24

## Parent and Family Engagement Policy for Shared Student Success

### School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

#### What is it?

This is a plan that describes how Sequatchie County Middle School will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. SCMS values the contributions and involvement of families to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that SCMS will support family engagement and how families can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

#### How is it revised?

Sequatchie County Middle School invites parents, teachers, and community members to family engagement meetings throughout the year to review and revise this parent and family engagement policy, our school-parent compact, and the family engagement budget. Additionally, family input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year through the family-friendly survey, which is distributed online and through paper copies. The plan is posted on our school website for families to review during the year and will be used to revise the plan for the next school year.

#### What is it for?

All students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Sequatchie County Middle School will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, foster, homeless, and of migratory children.

#### Where is it available?

At the beginning of the year, the plan is included in the student packet and given to all students. The plan is also posted on the school website and families can retrieve a copy of the plan in the school office.

#### What is Title I?

Sequatchie County Middle School is identified as a Title I Schoolwide School as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to the challenging State academic standards to improve teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support family engagement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with parents and family members a written parent and family engagement policy.



WHEN STUDENTS, SCHOOLS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES COME TOGETHER-WE CAN ACHIEVE OUR GOALS!

Sequatchie County Middle School  
Devona Smith, Principal  
7079 SR 28  
Dunlap, TN 37327  
(423)949-4149

<https://www.sequatchieschools.net/scms>

## 2023-24 SCMS Goal

**SCMS will strive to be a school where family involvement is encouraged and appreciated, caregivers feel comfortable entering our school building, contacting our teachers, and feel they are an active part of their students education. Involvement of families from all backgrounds will be encouraged and their home language a part of regular communication**



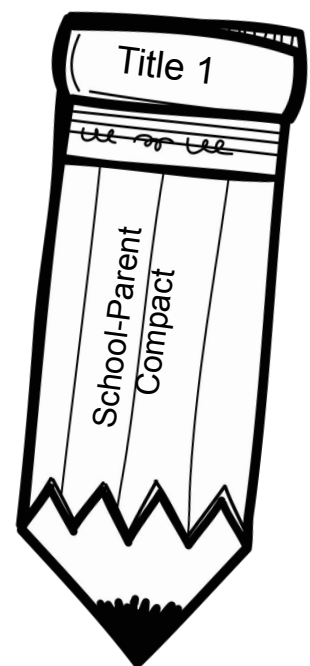
## Parent and Family Engagement

Sequatchie County Middle School believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
- Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

## School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, Sequatchie County Middle School and our families will develop a school-parent compact. A compact is a written agreement that families, teachers, students, and the principal jointly develop to explain how everyone will work together to ensure all students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from families, students, and teachers during various events and the annual Family-Friendly Survey. The school-parent compacts are also posted on our school website (<https://www.sequatchieschools.net/domain/505>). If you would like to provide feedback on the compact any time during the year, please contact Rhonda Harmon at (423)949-3617.



# Let's Get Together!

Due to Covid-19, our in-person events have been on hold the past few years. We are hopeful and planning to have in person events this year. However, please also check in on our digital media sources for virtual events and opportunities throughout the year.

- School Website: <https://www.sequatchieschools.net/scms>
- Facebook page: Sequatchie County Middle School
- YouTube page: SCMS YouTube

Here are some potential activities when/where we are able to have them:

Open House

4th Grade Night

Fall Festival

Game /Movie Nights

Christmas Caroling

Parent Pop-In Events

**\*Be on the lookout for information about various parent trainings at many of these events.**

---

## Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Sequatchie County Middle School and our families have adopted the following standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community.

The 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

# School Community Team

Sequatchie County Middle School invites all families to join the Family Engagement Committee to share ideas and ways to involve others to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet at least three times during the school year, but parents and family members can also submit ideas or suggestions at any school activities and meetings, as well as through our family friendly survey and website. If you would like to learn more about the Family Engagement Committee, please contact Miranda Chapman, Sasha Basham, or Merry Greer at (423)949-4149. We also welcome feedback through the survey below. It can be turned in to your child's teacher or the school office.

## Family Engagement Committee

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the Family Engagement Committee
- Please contact me so I can learn more about joining the Family Engagement Committee
- Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's Name and Grade Level:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you! If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this policy that you feel is not satisfactory with the students' and school's goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the front office:

**Name (optional):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number (optional):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Sequatchie County Middle School will take the following measures to empower and support parents and family members as an important foundation of our school in order to strengthen the school and reach our goals.

We will:

- ❖ Ensure that all information related to school and family programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish, posted on the school website for all families.
- ❖ Partner with early childhood programs, middle and high schools, college and career ready resources or organizations, parent resource centers, or other programs to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.
- ❖ Share information in English and Spanish for families to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as ways families can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ❖ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school-wide events and activities, through phone messages, our website, social media, and flyers.
- ❖ Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- ❖ Collect feedback from parents and family members at all events, and through the Family-Friendly survey.

