

Woodstation Elementary School
Title I Annual Parent Meeting
August 17, 2023
Minutes

Date: August 17, 2023

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Woodstation Elementary School

Invited: All WES Parents, Guardians, Faculty and Staff

Meeting Facilitators:

Ernie Ellis, Principal

Kandace Carter, Academic Coach

Mitzi Mew, Family Engagement Coordinator

Welcome

Parents were welcomed by Mr. Ellis. All attendees were signed in and were given a packet that included an agenda to follow along with the presentation, Family and School Team (FAST) brochure and Parent Right to Know letter. All attendees were also encouraged to stop by the Title I Table to pick up copies of the Annual meeting information, parent text message registration information, WES Parent and Family Engagement Policy, District Parent and Family Engagement Policy, Student Testing in Georgia brochure, Georgia Standards of Excellence information, Components of a Schoolwide Plan handout, How to Communicate with Your Child's Teacher brochure, Acronyms for Parents handout, and Parent Portal information. Mitzi Mew and Kandace Carter were available to answer any questions about the information available.

Presentation of Information and Slide Show

Mr. Ellis introduced himself and explained to attendees that they could follow along with the presentation by looking at the agenda in their paperwork packet. He discussed the following items:

What is a Title I school and what are the requirements?

Mr. Ellis explained that Woodstation receives extra funding to help improve the academic environment for all students at Woodstation. He said Title I programs often provide additional staff, professional development for staff, technology, and family engagement opportunities.

What does our school do with Title I money?

Mr. Ellis showed the parents a graph that indicated how Woodstation is spending Title I funds this year. The majority of the money is being spent on salaries for Kandy Carter, Academic Coach, and Mitzi Mew, Family Engagement Coordinator. A small part of the budget also goes toward paying for family engagement workshops, activities, and instructional supplies.

What are our school goals?

Mr. Ellis explained that our goals are driven by assessment results (Georgia Milestones and MAP). After reviewing results, the GLOW (school leadership) team comes up with strategies for improvement and SMART goals. Woodstation's school goals for SY22-23 were shown on a slide.

ELA Goals for Woodstation Elementary 2023-2024

1. By May 2024 80% of Pre-K students will demonstrate proficiency with letter recognition of 18 upper and 15 lower case letters.

2. By May 2024 90% of Kindergartners students will demonstrate mastery of all sounds up to digraphs on the LETRS Spelling Inventory.
3. By May 2024 90% of 1st-grade students will demonstrate mastery of all sounds up to VCe (silent E) words on the LETRS Spelling Inventory.
4. By May 2024 the percentage of second-grade students scoring at the 60th percentile or above on MAP Growth Reading will increase from 41% to 45%.
5. By May 2024 the percentage of 3rd grade students scoring at the 60th percentile or above on MAP Growth Reading will increase from 44% to 48%.
6. By May 2024 the percentage of students in 4th grade performing a level 3 or 4 in English Language Arts will increase from 40% (3rd grade score) to 43% (4th grade score) on the Georgia Milestones Assessment.
7. By May 2024 the percentage of students in 5th grade performing at a level 3 or 4 in English Language Arts will increase from 40% (4th grade score) to 43% (5th grade score) on the Georgia Milestones Assessment.

Math Goals for Woodstation Elementary for 2023-2024

1. By May 2024 75% of Pre-K students will demonstrate mastery of identification, rote counting, and 1:1 correspondence of numbers 0-20.
2. By May 2024 65% (75%) of Kindergarten students will perform at the 60th percentile or higher on MAP.
3. By May 2024 (63%), 67% of students in 1st grade will perform at the 60th percentile or higher on MAP.
4. By May 2024 (55%) 60% of students in 2nd grade will perform at the 60th percentile or higher on MAP.
5. By May 2024 (44%) 50% of students in 3rd grade will perform at the 60th percentile or higher on MAP.
6. By May 2024 the percentage of students in 4th grade performing at a level 3 or 4 in Math will increase from 41% (3rd-grade score) to 45% (4th-grade score) on the Georgia Milestones test.
7. By May 2024 the percentage of students in 5th grade performing at a level 3 or 4 in Math will increase from 61% (4th-grade score) to 65% (on 5th-grade score) on the Georgia Milestones Assessment.

What curriculum does WES use?

Mr. Ellis said all Catoosa County Schools use the state adopted standards called the Georgia Standards of Excellence as their adopted curriculum. Teachers communicate standards to parents through classroom newsletters and Remind/Class Dojo messages to help families know what students are working on in the classroom. Mr. Ellis told parents there was a brochure available at the Title I table with more information about the Georgia Standards of Excellence and he encouraged parents to take one home.

Does my child's teacher meet professional qualifications?

Mr. Ellis told parents they have the right to request information concerning teacher or paraprofessional qualifications. He asked parents to look in their packet for the Parents' Right to know letter and to read it over. Mr. Ellis said he is always happy to provide information to parents regarding teacher qualifications.

Team Learning Process - The Four Questions

Mr. Ellis told parents that Woodstation is a Professional Learning Community (PLC). This means all teachers on each grade level are working together to ensure high levels of learning for every student. These are the four questions teachers are asking when working together to help students achieve:

- What do we want all students to learn?
 - Georgia Standards of Excellence with focus on essential standards
- How will we know if they have learned it?
 - Data from assessments
- How will we respond if they don't learn it?
 - Reteach, small groups, individualize instruction
- How will we extend learning for those who know it?
 - Deepen learning, produce a product based on standard or learning target.

What programs/supports are in place for your child?

Mr. Ellis said teachers work hard in the classroom to provide each child what he/she needs to be successful.

- Free after school tutoring for students who qualify
- Intervention time built into the daily schedule
- Extra learning programs for students including Lexia, Reading Plus, iReady, and DreamBox

What tests will your child take this year and how do they measure progress?

Students in grades 3-5 will take the Georgia Milestones assessments in the spring. Mr. Ellis also told parents that students in kindergarten-5th grade complete benchmark testing (MAP assessment) several times throughout the year. These tests measure student growth from year to year in reading (ELA) and math.

Students receive a RIT score on their MAP assessment. Mr. Ellis said teachers will help you interpret your student's RIT score at our FAST meetings.

Students will score in one of four levels on Georgia Milestones:

- Level 1: Beginning Learner
- Level 2: Developing Learner
- Level 3: Proficient Learner
- Level 4: Distinguished Learner

Mr. Ellis said Woodstation's goal is to have all students score Level 3 or Level 4.

How do I access Parent Portal?

Previous test performance, standards, and attendance using the [Statewide Longitudinal Data System](#) (SLDS) are accessed through our parent portal.

To register for Parent Portal, Mr. Ellis referred all parents to visit the Title I table for a packet.

State's Grade Report

Mr. Ellis said there is a grade report that parents can access that gives information about the school. The link to access this report was shown on a slide:

<https://schoolgrades.georgia.gov/>

Ways WES partners with parents:

Mr. Ellis said the goal of the Title I Family Engagement Program is to work with parents as partners in order to achieve higher student success. Parents are encouraged to play an active role in their child's education by participating in school decision making, helping create policies and compacts, and volunteering. Some of the ways Woodstation is working with families this year are through Family and School Team (FAST) meetings and FAST conferences. Fifth grade and PreK/Kindergarten transition events, PAC meeting, and surveys. Mr. Ellis introduced Mitzi Mew, Family Engagement Coordinator and encouraged parents to speak with Mrs. Mew or visit the Family Resource Center located in Room 120.

How do parents lodge complaints?

Mr. Ellis told parents he has an open door and to speak with him about any questions or concerns. He said he is usually outside every morning greeting students in the car line, or parents may call the school office at (706) 935-6700 to schedule an appointment. He told parents if they have a Title I concern, they should bring it to Gina Haynes, Catoosa County Director of Federal Programs. Her phone number was on the presentation slide (706) 965-2297 and her email was also included: ghaynes@catoosa.k12.ga.us

Will the staff be responsive to questions?

Mr. Ellis said he always welcomes feedback from parents. He said Woodstation wants to meet the needs of its families and parents are welcome to request information or meetings at any time. He also encouraged parents to speak with Mrs. Mew, attend meetings, and fill out their evaluation forms if they have input or suggestions.

Lunch Application Forms

Mr. Ellis presented salary numbers to inform attendees of qualifications for Free/Reduced lunch forms. Since the USDA grant expired, families are expected to once again pay for breakfast and lunch, if they do not qualify for assistance. Mr. Ellis encouraged all families to complete the form online.

Closing

After the slide show and presentation of information, Mr. Ellis thanked everyone for coming out. He asked them to fill out the green evaluation form found on a separate table in the room, and to visit the Title I table before leaving. Mitzi Mew collected feedback forms as parents exited the meeting. [See Annual Meeting Evaluation Results](#).