MACON-HALL ELEMENTARY



Student/Family Handbook 2019-2020

Macon-Hall Student/Family Handbook

SCHOOL CONTACTS:

Principal:

Mrs. Jill Asher <u>asherj@scsk12.org</u>

Assistant Principals:

Dr. Brooke Lubin

Mrs. Martha Mason

Mrs. Blair Trotz

lubinbb@scsk12.org

masonmj@scsk12.org

trotzb@scsk12.org

PLC Coach:

Mrs. Angie Powers powersag@scsk12.org

School Counselors:

Ms. Beth James (3rd and 5th) jamesbe@scsk12.org
Ms. Rebecca Frohs (KK and 1st) frohsr@scsk12.org
Ms. Alicia Terbecki (2nd and 4th) terbeckia@scsk12.org

Financial Secretary:

Mrs. Sandra Raffanti raffantisc@scsk12.org

Receptionist & Medical Records:

Mrs. Vicki Goad <u>goadvb@scsk12.org</u>

Attendance Secretary:

Mrs. Terether Bass <u>bassta@scsk12.org</u>

Cafeteria Manager:

Mrs. Amanda Barnett <u>barnettab@scsk12.org</u>

School Building Engineer:

Mr. Delbert Means <u>Meansdl1@scsk12.org</u>

OUR MISSION

At Macon-Hall, we strive for excellence in academics, character, community, and life.

OUR BELIEFS

At Macon-Hall, we believe...

An emotionally and physically safe and supportive environment embracing the diversity of our school family is essential for student **learning** and success.

All students can learn when they are valued members of a community where each individual is respected, respectful, and responsible.

As educators, it is our responsibility to meet the needs of each student by utilizing varied **instructional** strategies and **research-based information**, administering ongoing **assessments**, and interpreting **data** to help drive decisions that ensure academic growth and success.

Students must have opportunities to develop and enhance their **technology** skills if they are to be prepared for future life experiences in a technological society.

Instruction in Art, Music, Physical Education, Library, and Guidance (life skills), enhances a child's life by encouraging the development of self-expression, problem solving skills, and physical and mental health.

The MHES community must adhere to district, state, and federal **policies** as it takes responsibility for and participates in the **decision-making** process planning for student growth and achievement.

Shelby County Schools 2019-2020 Attendance and Report Card Periods For Schools Following the District-wide Calendar

Twenty-Day Attendance Periods

20-Day Period	Begins		Ends		
1	Monday	August 12	Monday	September 9	
2	Tuesday	September 10	Monday	October 7	
3	Tuesday	October 8	Tuesday	November 12	
4	Wednesday	November 13	Tuesday	December 17	
5	Wednesday	December 18	Wednesday	January 29	
6	Thursday	January 30	Thursday	February 27	
7	Friday	February 28	Thursday	April 2	
8	Friday	April 3	Friday	May 1	
9	Monday	May 4	Friday	May 22 (15 Days)	

Report Card and Progress Report Periods

Report	Report Card	Progress	Progress	Report Card	Report Card	Days
Card	Period	Report Period	Report Issued	Period Ends	Issued	in
Period	Begins	Ends				Period
1 st 9	August 12	September 11	September 18	October 11	October 30	
Weeks	Monday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Friday	Wednesday	44
2 nd 9	October 21	November 20	December 4	December 20	January 8	
Weeks	Monday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Friday	Wednesday	39
Semester						83
3 rd 9	January 6	February 5	February 12	March 13	April 1	
Weeks	Monday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Friday	Wednesday	48
4 th 9	March 23	April 22	April 29	May 22		
Weeks	Monday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Friday	Mailed	44
Semester						
Year						

MACON-HALL RULES AND PROCEDURES

School Hours

The official school day is from 9:15 AM – 4:15 PM.

- Students may enter the building at 8:55 AM. Students should not be on campus before 8:55 AM. There is no supervision available prior to this time. Students are not allowed inside the building before 8:55 AM unless they are enrolled in the YMCA program or involved in an extracurricular activity.
- Security/DCS authorities may be notified for students arriving prior to 8:55am and those not picked up by 4:30pm. Students still on campus after 4:30 will be brought to YMCA for after care. YMCA reserves the right to charge for services.
- Homeroom begins at 8:55 AM and provides students time to unpack, sharpen pencils, visit the bookstore, turn in money or notes, and prepare for the day. Breakfast will be delivered to the classrooms at this time.
- Parents must sign their children in, in the front office if they arrive after 9:25 AM. A tardy slip is issued after 9:25 AM and this will be marked on his/her report card under attendance.
- No checkouts allowed after 3:30 pm.
- Early check outs and tardies count against a student's attendance.

Communication

- Please make sure that your PowerSchool account is up to date with correct phone numbers, addresses, and email addresses. We use the information on file to send out group messages and robo calls. You can update this information online at www.scsk12.org and click on the Powerschool link.
- Please follow us on Facebook (MaconHallSCS), Instagramn(@MaconHallSCS), and Twitter(@MaconHallSCS),. This is the fastest way for us to get information out.

Academics

Grades will be reported on report cards and cumulative records using numerical values as indicated below:

A.....93-100

B.....85-92

C.....75-84

D.....70-74

F....Below 70

A minimum number of grades are required for each subject each quarter. Weekly papers and teacher communication will report progress informally from the teacher in Wednesday Folders. Grades can be viewed online by accessing Power School. This is the same log in that you use to register your student. Please make sure you keep your PowerSchool account updated. Interim reports go home at the mid point of each grading period. Report cards are issued every nine weeks.

HOMEWORK

Homework fosters student achievement, independence, and responsibility and serves as a vital link between school and home. Therefore, it is the policy of Shelby County Schools that meaningful and quality homework is required at all grade levels in all schools. Homework should be an extension of the school day providing extra practice and should reflect classroom instruction.

Building Security

Door cameras have been installed. Parents and all daytime visitors will need to enter through the front doors facing Macon Road and press the call button. Visitor stickers will be required for you to wear during your visit. **Lunch visitors will receive a pink sticker to indicate the purpose of the visit.**

CAMPUS ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL AND TRANSPORTATION GUIDES

MORNING ARRIVAL/AFTERNOON DISMISSAL

Pre-School classes are dropped off and picked up in the front parking lot. Day Care buses use the bus circle drive. No other car riders are allowed to use these lots from 8:30 to 9:15 AM and 3:30 to 4:15 PM. You will be asked to pull around to the car line to drop your student.

- For all students' safety, students will not be called for early checkout after 3:30 PM. Photo ID is required to check out a student. No student will be released to a person not listed on the student demographic screen.
- Parking along the sidewalk in the front circle drive is prohibited from general use from 8:40 to 9:15 AM and 3:30 to 4:15 PM.

ATTENDANCE

- Regular and punctual attendance is a very important part of education. Every effort should be made for children to be present all day, every day.
- Each nine weeks, students in all classes who do not miss any days from school will be given a perfect attendance award (Never Been Absent Club). The criteria for perfect attendance includes no late check-ins and/or early checkouts.
- A written excuse note is required noting the date(s) absent and the reason for the absence. Please be sure to include the teacher's name on the note. The note is to be given to the teacher within two school days of the student's return to school (SCS Policy #6108). If a note is not received, the absence is recorded as unexcused.
- Tardiness and early checkouts are cumulative.
- NOTE: Please contact the teacher <u>via email</u> for any missed assignments. Teacher email addresses can be found on our school website.
 - o http://www.scsk12.org/schools/maconhall.es/site/index.shtml
- Please refer to the Shelby County Schools Handbook Policy 6014 for information regarding school attendance. All absences are recorded as unexcused until the parent provides verification. Students who accumulate five (5) or more unexcused absence events are referred to Student Services. Further information regarding violations can be found in the Shelby County Handbook.

Before and After School Care

• The YMCA offers a before/after school daycare program on campus beginning at 6:30AM. The after school daycare program is offered until 6:00 PM. For more information, please call the YMCA at 901-766-7677. Area daycares also provide transportation to and from Macon-Hall.

Bike Riders

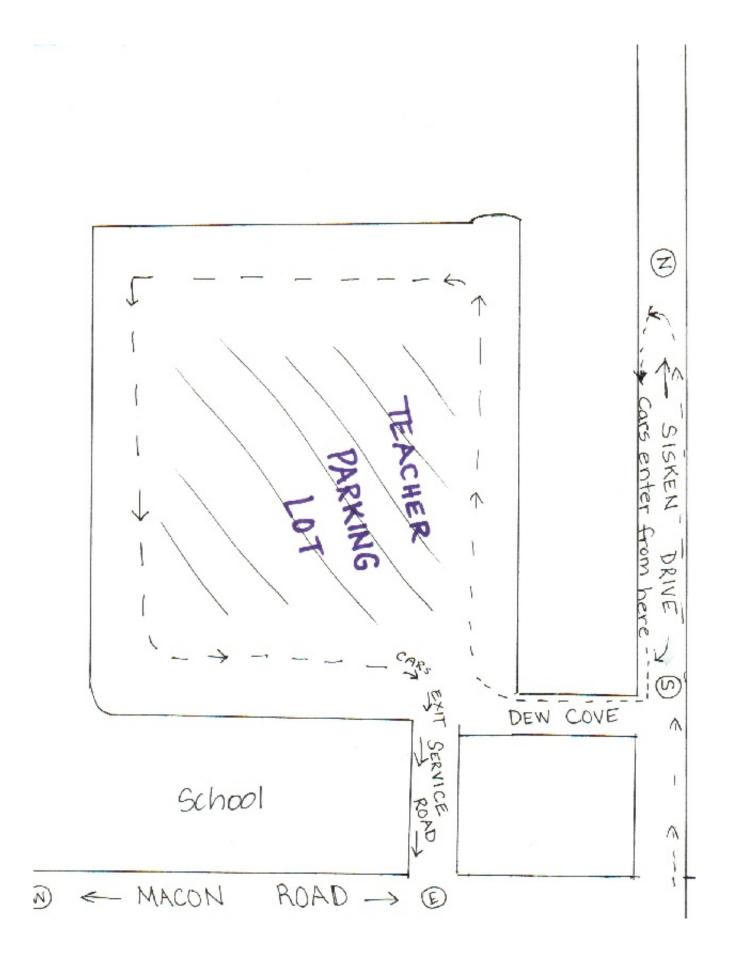
- Helmets are required for bikes. Helmets must be worn on the student's head while riding the bike on and off school property.
- Bikes must be walked on/off school grounds and on all sidewalks adjoining the school.

Bus Riders

- Students must ride the bus assigned to their home address. Students are not permitted to ride on any other bus. Each student will be picked up and dropped off at their *assigned* stop.
- Kindergarten and 1st grade students must have an adult present at the bus stop in order for the student to be allowed to exit the bus. If a student is returned to the school, it will be documented as a late check out.
- Bus riders will be given the conduct rules. Parents should review the rules
 with students, sign, and return the bottom portion of the rules form.
 Students who do not comply with the bus rules or the guidelines in the
 Shelby County Schools Handbook will not be allowed to ride the bus. Safety
 first will always rule our decisions about student behavior on the bus.

Car Riders

- Car riders will assemble and be released from the gym.
 Car riders must be dropped off and picked up from the back parking lot.
 The entrance to this lot is through Dew Cove off Siskin Drive.
 Students may not be dropped in the front circle drive.
- Please be certain that students can be loaded in the backseat on the **passenger** side of the car.
- Parking in the back or front parking lot and walking up to get your child will not be permitted. For security purposes, children will not be released from the gym.
- **CELL PHONES are not allowed** in our car line. This is to limit distractions and ensure the safety of everyone in line. Safety for the students is our first priority and violations will be addressed.
- Students must be able to buckle/unbuckle their own seat belt in the car line.
- During morning drop off, students must remain inside their vehicle until 8:55am.



Day Care Vans

- The back circle parking lot will be the day care van drop off area.
- Day care van riders will be dismissed from the back door.

Walkers

- Students are considered walkers if they can walk directly to or from their homes when attending school.
- Students may not walk to cars parked in the neighborhood. These students will need to get in the car rider line and follow car rider dismissal procedures. This will be closely monitored for the safety of all students.

Change of Transportation Notification - VERY IMPORTANT

- Any change to the mode of transportation for your child from school must be sent **in writing** to your child's teacher.
- If an emergency situation arises, please call the school (416-2625) before 3:15 PM. Email is not accepted for these reasons: occasional technical issues may occur and teachers are engaged in instruction and may not check email until after school. Additionally, substitute teachers do not have access to teacher email. Any person picking a student up must be listed as a contact in PowerSchool and be prepared to show ID.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather, a decision will be made by the Superintendent regarding the safety of transporting students to and from school. Information regarding the closing of schools will be announced on all local TV and radio stations, as well as on our SCS website (www.scsk12.org) and parents will be notified through the Rapid Notice System. If our school is closed during the day, we will follow the Inclement Weather Plan that parents provide the school. Please look for this form to come home in Wednesday folders and return promptly. Phones are very busy during this time and it may be impossible for you to reach the school. Remember, we will not contact you when there is inclement weather or an emergency. Instead, we will follow the plan that you provide on the Inclement Weather form.

We will make every attempt to post notifications through our social medias sites also.

Lost and Found Items

The Lost and Found racks are located by the back door of the school by the gym. Students are encouraged to check here for lost items. **Please make sure your child's name is written in all hats, coats, gloves, back packs, and lunch boxes.** The area is cleared at the end of each semester. Unclaimed items are donated to a local charity.

Breakfast/Lunch

Cafeteria Contact - Amanda Barnett, Cafeteria Manager

School breakfasts and lunches are provided free to all students.

A great effort has been made to provide students with an orderly lunchroom. We are teaching lunchroom manners and helping students understand the importance of leaving their eating space tidy and walking in the cafeteria.

LUNCH VISITOR PROTOCOL: You may only eat with your child at designated guest tables and only during your child's lunch period. Due to limited seating, you may only enter the cafeteria with your child's class and must leave when your child's class exits. Please do not take photos or videos while in the building. Birthday celebrations are not allowed in the cafeteria, and should be coordinated with the homeroom teacher.

Lunch visitors will receive a pink visitor sticker. You will need to check back in with the office if you have any other business to attend to in the school.

Medical Information

Clinic/Health Room

Students will be released from the clinic to parents, guardians, or others as designated on his/her registration forms/health cards.

 Chronic illnesses such as asthma, diabetes, allergies, etc. may require additional medical documentation. Please contact Mrs. Goad for more information.

Medication: Contact - Vicki Goad, Medical Records

- A Shelby County Schools medical form must be filled out and signed by the parent before medication can be administered at school.
- All medication must be brought to the office by the parent or guardian.
 Under no circumstance shall a student bring the medication to school by himself/herself. The medication must be in the original container with the label stating current dispensing instructions from the physician. (SCS Policy and Regulation #6405).
- Students may NOT have any medications such as cough drops, Tylenol, etc. in their possession.

Visitors and Volunteers

Visitors and volunteers are valuable parts of our instructional program. They must check in at the designated sign in area as they enter the building. This is state law (TCA 49-2-303). A visitor's badge will be issued at that time. We take very seriously our responsibility to protect instructional time. Please do not interrupt instruction by visiting classrooms without permission. Violations will be addressed by administration and may result in limited school visitation.

Shelby County School Parent Handbook can be found here: http://www.scsk12.org

Macon Hall Elementary and SCS Cell Phone Policy

CELL PHONES / PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES (POLICY #6024)

All students are banned from possessing any type of phone or personal communication device that is turned on or is visible/audible at any time during the regular school day.

For the purpose of this policy, possession means being found in any article of clothing, purse, book bag, carry bag, or in any location on school property other than the approved storage location as written and approved by school officials. <u>Students who wish to carry a cell phone with them to and from school must have a parent request letter signed and filed.</u> The device will be turned off upon arrival at school and stored in their teacher's room bagged and tagged with the student's name.

For the purposes of this policy the school day includes the entire day from the *school start* time or bell that indicates the start of the school day until the final dismissal time of the school day. Cell phones may not be used on school property. This includes bus, car line (until entering a car), and walkers while on school property.

A student found in unauthorized possession of any type of cell phone or communication device during the school day will have the device taken from him or her and kept by the school Principal or designee until the parent is notified. The day after receiving confiscation notification, the parent may pick up the device at a time designated by the principal.

Neither the school nor staff is responsible for any lost or damaged cell phones or communication devices.

Macon Hall Elementary and SCS Student Dress Code

(Policy #6021)

The standards for Shelby County Schools dress reflect "common sense" and a concern for each child's comfort, safety, cleanliness, and sense of modesty. *There is a strong relationship between neat, appropriate attire and a positive learning environment.* Apparel or appearance, which tends to draw attention to an individual rather than to a learning situation, must be avoided.

To that end, Shelby County Schools establishes a basic dress code to ensure appropriate and modest dress.

MHES dress code policy includes:

Shirts must be tucked in. Oversized shirts/sweatshirts/jackets may not be worn. Spaghetti straps, midriff shirts, and halter-tops are not acceptable. Coats may not be worn in the classroom. Students may wear a well-fitted jacket or sweatshirt inside if needed.

Pants (including jeans) must be worn at the waist, be appropriately sized with no rips, tears, or holes and of a safe length. Tights, leggings or "jeggings" as pants can only be worn with a top that extends to at least 3 inches above the knee while standing.

Skirts, dresses, and shorts may be worn no more than 3 inches above the bent knee.

Footwear is required and must be safe and appropriate for both indoor and outdoor physical activity. Prohibited: shoes with a heel higher than 1 ½ inches, flip flops, slide-on shoes, and sandals that do not have a heel strap that prevents the shoe from sliding off.

Macon-Hall Parent Handbook Accelerated Reader Policy (AR)

AR is a program used to motivate students to increase their reading and vocabulary comprehension and guide them to independent reading. AR is the world's most popular reading program; used in nearly 60,000 schools. There is a proven link between strong reading skills and academic success – great readers make great students! This compliments the school's goal of having each student read independently at least 20-30 minutes per day at home. It also supports Shelby County's commit to literacy initiative and destination 2025. Students will read a book and take a quiz to test their level of comprehension of what they read. All students need to have a passing rate of 80% or above on all AR tests taken, an individual points goal decided by the teacher, and certain grades will have chapter book requirements. Each teacher will have different incentives in place to motivate students to reach their goals!

Here are the grade level expectations for AR:

Kindergarten: Will not be required to do AR

First grade: The teacher will add the student to the AR program once they are able to read. If on the AR program, first graders should have 40 AR points by the end of the year. Second grade: The students will be required to read FOUR chapter books each nine weeks at an 80% or above passing rate. By the end of the year they will need to have 60 AR points.

Third grade: The students will be required to read **EIGHT** chapter books each nine weeks at an 80% or above passing rate. By the end of the year they will need to have **80** AR points.

Fourth grade: The students will be required to read **EIGHT** chapter books each nine weeks at an 80% or above passing rate. By the end of the year they will need to have 100 AR points.

Fifth grade: The students will be required to read **NINE** chapter books each nine weeks at an 80% or above passing rate. By the end of the year they will need to have **125** AR points.

How can I help my child be successful?

Students will best reach their goal and have the most benefit out of this program when reading books on their ZPD level. ZPD is the Zone of Proximal Development. It is the range of grade level equivalent books in which a student reads. A second grader may have a ZPD level of 1.9-2.6, this means they should be reading books in between those numbers to make sure the student is comprehending what they are reading. Teachers will send home information from your child's STAR test results with this information. Choose books at the public library or bookstore within your child's level for best reading results.

AR tests are only to be taken at school. If your child is reading a book at home, they may bring the book to school or you may have them write the title and author in their agenda book. Check www.arbookfind.com to make sure there is a corresponding AR test. They will be able to take AR tests in their classrooms, the library, and the computer lab.

Keep an eye on your child's progress at the Renaissance Home Connect website: https://Hosted125.renlearn.com/86052/HomeConnect The same login and password that your child uses at school will work at home.

Check out our librarian's website. Here you will find library information and links for AR. www.librarybookbuddy.weebly.com

Student/Parent/Teacher/Administrator Compact 2019-2020

The success of every student is the responsibility of all stakeholders. This compact describes the commitments of the students, parents, teachers and administrators as we work together to help students achieve Tennessee's high standards.

Student Agreement

It is important that I work to the best of my ability. Therefore, I will strive to do the following:

- Listen, follow directions, complete and return homework assignments on time.
- Come to school on time, everyday with supplies needed for classroom work.
- ➤ Read at least 15-30 minutes every day outside of school.
- ➤ Give my parents/guardians all notes and information every day.
- ➤ Accept responsibility for my actions and grades and cooperate with others in all learning situations.
- ➤ Complete all school and homework assignments.
- > Show responsible behavior by coming to school regularly and on time, following all school rules, and bringing necessary materials to school.
- Respect others and follow the Student Rules of Conduct.

Parent Agreement

I will support my child's learning in the following ways:

- > See that my child is punctual and attends school regularly with the necessary supplies.
- Establish a time and place for homework and check it daily.
- Provide a quiet, well lighted place for study.
- > Encourage my child's best efforts and be available for questions.
- ➤ Model and teach my child behaviors which are used to treat others with dignity and respect.
- ➤ Monitor the amount of television my child watches and promote positive use of time outside of school.
- ➤ Participate in the school as I:
 - o Volunteer in my child's classroom, school clinic, library, etc.
 - Attend parent/teacher conferences.
 - o Involve myself in decisions related to my child's education.
 - Stay aware of what my child is learning by making periodic school visits.
 - Communicate by promptly reading, signing and returning all notices from the school or school district.
 - Support the school's efforts to maintain proper discipline and dress code.

Teacher Agreement

It is important that students achieve and grow. Therefore, I will strive to:

- ➤ Provide instruction that fosters high academics and expectations aiming students to be the best they can be.
- **Establish** a safe and enriching classroom environment.
- ➤ Provide meaningful homework assignments and interventions for students to achieve academic success.
- > Treat all students, parents, and other staff members with dignity and respect while modeling and teaching these behaviors to my students.
- Provide regular information to students and parents about student progress.
- ➤ Provide flexible opportunities for parents to meet during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement.
- ➤ Provide a warm inviting classroom to students and opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate in their child's learning.
- ➤ Use Teacher Web Pages to inform and update parents.

Administrator Agreement

It is important that students achieve and parents are involved. Therefore, I will strive to:

- Provide a safe environment that promotes positive communication among the students, parents, and faculty.
- ➤ Provide a high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the children to meet the State's academic achievement standards.
- > Provide staff development to promote standards-based instruction.
- > Treat students, parents, and staff members with dignity and respect while modeling and teaching these behaviors.
- Provide parents reasonable access to staff, to volunteer, participate, and observe in their child's class
- Encourage teachers and students to strive toward high expectations academically, socially, and physically.
- ➤ Coordinate communication to parents regarding learning expectations and current progress.

Shelby County Schools offers educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex or disability.

Family/Community Engagement Plan

2019-2020

Macon-Hall Elementary School encourages parental involvement in the educational process and has established an expectation for parental involvement at our school. In order to promote student success, we are committed to encouraging parental engagement within our school by providing opportunities for parents to actively participate in the education of their child/children in the following ways:

- 1. Developing jointly with parents a school/parent compact and family engagement plan
- 2. Supporting and encouraging active participation in PTO events.
- 3. Responding to surveys, questionnaires from parents expressing ideas and/or concerns to improve education.
- 4. Providing interpreter services when necessary.
- 5. Encouraging parents to attend school events and use their talent and resources to enhance the instructional program.
- 6. Providing parents access to written material in their native language.
- 7. Providing a flexible number of regularly scheduled parent meetings during the morning, afternoon, and evening.
- 8. Providing assistance to parents in understanding the state's academic content standards, student academic achievement standards, and state assessments.
- 9. Providing training to help parents work with their children to improve achievement.

Title 1/ESSA Involvement

The administrators, faculty, and parents will jointly develop, review, and revise the MHES School Improvement Plan and implement Title 1 requirements according to the guidelines set forth by law and Shelby County Schools Policy. To build capacity for involvement with parents and the community, MHES will:

- 1. Inform parents of the Title 1 requirements and our school's participation at the annual Title 1 meeting.
- 2. Invite and encourage feedback from parents and respond to parents' questions and concerns in a timely manner.
- 3. Provide communications in a format and language that is easily understandable to all parents
- 4. Invite parents to observe Macon-Hall Elementary School programs and visit classrooms.
- 5. Communicate with parents on a regular basis through monthly and weekly newsletters, weekly folders, student progress reports, and deficiency reports.
- 6. Provide scheduled parent conferences and requested parent conferences to discuss student progress.
- 7. Provide parents and the community with assessment results and overall district and building performance.
- 8. Provide parents and community stakeholders a copy of the Family Engagement Plan and a copy of the SCS Family Engagement Policy.
- 9. Provide meetings and activities to assist parents in understanding the curriculum, academic assessments, and student proficiency levels.
- 10. Provide parents and community stakeholders accessibility of LEA policies and curriculum.
- 11. Provide and information board of current events and updated website information to inform parents of school activities and distribute notices and communications in a timely manner.
- 12. Utilize partnerships with community organizations.
- 13. Provide parents with a description and explanation of the **curriculum** used at Shelby County, forms of **academic assessment** used to measure student progress, and the **proficiency levels** students are expected to meet.

To ensure Macon-Hall Elementary School parents participate in the school's programs, we will:

- 1. Provide annual meetings to explain the components and requirements of Title 1.
- 2. Provide **flexible times** for our parents to attend parent meetings, with **opportunities to attend regular meetings** at night and alternate meetings in the morning of the same week, and may provide, with Title I funds, transportation, child care, or home visits, as deemed necessary to help remove barriers to parent/guardian participation in these school activities and meetings.
- 3. **Inform parents of their rights to be involved** in their child's education.
- 4. Offer training and workshops in parenting skills.
- 5. Provide opportunities **for parents to jointly develop and review the MHES parent-school compact** and the MHES Family Engagement Plan.
- 6. Provide opportunities for parents to give suggestions and comments about the MHES parent-school compact and the MHES Family Engagement Plan and respond to parent comments and suggestions in a timely manner.
- 7. Distribute copies of the Parent-School Compact and the Family Engagement Plan in a timely manner to all students, parents, and community stakeholders and acquire appropriate signatures.
- 8. Provide professional development to faculty and staff to promote parental involvement.
- 9. Provide access to community and support services.
- 10. Provide parent meetings to explain the SCS Curriculum, TCAP/TNReady assessment, Formative Assessment, and student proficiency levels.
- 11. Provide opportunities for parents to offer suggestions and give input through surveys and evaluations.
- 12. Provide responses to parent suggestions, questions, and concerns through newsletters and written and phone communication.
- 13. Provide ELL parents information on assisting their children in attaining English proficiency and in achieving academic success.