

## What is a School-Student-Family Compact?

A School-Student-Family Compact for Achievement is an agreement that parents/guardians, students, and teachers develop together. It explains how families and the Georgia Academy for the Blind (GAB) will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards.

Effective Compacts:

- \* Link to goals of the School Improvement Plan.
- \* Focus on student learning skills.
- \* Describe how teachers will help students develop those skills using high-quality instruction.
- \* Share strategies that families can use at home.
- \* Explain how teachers and families will communicate about student progress.

### Quality Compacts Are Jointly Developed

Meetings are held throughout the year for **\*stakeholders** to review the compact and make changes based on student needs. Families reviewed the compact and offered suggestions, teachers suggested activities and strategies for home learning, and students shared their ideas about what they need to learn.

**Families are invited and encouraged to contribute their feedback on the compact at any time.**



### Communication about Student Learning

The Georgia Academy for the Blind communicates with families through a variety of methods in order to keep them informed about student learning, programs, and events including:

- \* Registration day/ Open House.
- \* Notes home.
- \* Quarterly progress reports.
- \* Weekly *Panther Press* newsletter.
- \* Updates on the school web site and official Facebook.
- \* Infinite Campus parent portal.
- \* Automate text and voice messages (must sign 'opt-in' form).
- \* Family Resource Room.
- \* Annual IEP meetings.
- \* Parent-teacher conferences.
- \* On campus and phone conferences with teachers on request.
- \* School Council Meetings Better Seeking Team (BST).
- \* Regional Family Meetings throughout the year in various cities across the state.

GAB offers a variety of opportunities for families to volunteer and be involved in their child's education.

Please consider:

- \* Applying to be a school volunteer.
- \* Attending school events.
- \* Attending and Regional Family Meetings.
- \* Observing in your child's classroom (24-hour notice required).
- \* Joining School Council and/or BST.

# Georgia Academy for the Blind

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School-Student-Family Compact

2019--20

Final revision: 7- 25 - 19

Mission Statement: The Georgia Academy for the Blind provides quality education services to Georgia's students with visual impairments and/or visual impairments in conjunction with other disabilities to prepare them to achieve their highest level of independence in transition to college and career readiness.

**Academic Achievement Goals  
State Schools' Goals for 2019-20:**

- Increase the percent of students identified as *proficient* in English/Language Arts (LEA) on Georgia Milestones Assessments by 10% as evidenced by scores of 5<sup>th</sup> grade, 8<sup>th</sup> grade and all Math/ELA End of Course (EOC) high school students.
- Increase the percent of students identified as *proficient* in Math on GMAS by 10% as evidenced by scores of 5<sup>th</sup> grade, 8<sup>th</sup> grade and all Math/ELA EOC high school students.

**GAB's Focus Goals for 2019-20 to support the State Schools' Goals:**

- Students will demonstrate growth by 3% in ELA and Math proficiency as measured by benchmarks.
- Graduates will be employment and post-secondary ready as tracked by checklists, job attainment, vocational rehabilitation programs, and enrollment in college
- Students will achieve independent living skills as measured by the Extended Core Curriculum (ECC) checklist.

**Building Partnerships** between school, family, and community benefit students as well as each of the \*stakeholders involved. To build and maintain partnerships, The Georgia Academy for the Blind will reach out to families and community members through a variety of planned events. The school will communicate with families and \*stakeholders on a regular basis and share important resources that can benefit student learning.

**As a school, we will . . .**

- Develop homework assignments in math and reading that allow family participation and are targeted to the individual student's needs.
- Provide regular reading and math activities, games, and homework tips through the weekly newsletter, teacher web pages, and other resources.
- Provide timely notification regarding school events, opportunities for family involvement, and documents requiring family response.
- Offer family meetings through Regional Family Meetings, and meetings alongside winter and spring programs and Braille Challenge on topics requested by families to encourage home-school collaboration and to increase student achievement.

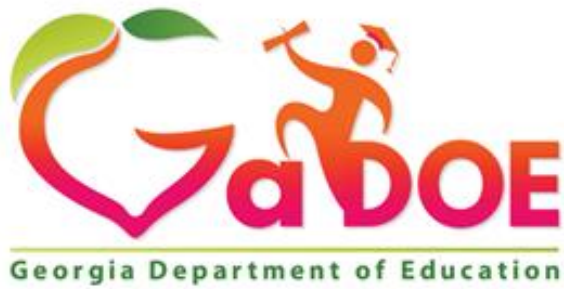
**As a family member, I will . . .**

- Monitor homework completion and review with my child to ensure understanding.
- Read the newsletter and participate in appropriate reading and math activities at home with my child.
- Look for information on school events and family engagement opportunities, try to attend school events, and return requested documents in a timely manner.
- Attend campus or regional family meetings and request information and resources on topics that will benefit my child.
- Make sure that my child attends school regularly and punctually.
- Inform the school when my address, email, and/or phone number changes.

**As a student, I will . . .**

- Complete homework and ask my family and teachers for help when I need help.
- Participate in math and reading games and activities with my family.
- Bring home the newsletter and other school announcements and review them with my family.
- Talk to my family and encourage them to attend Regional Family Meetings, winter and spring programs, IEP meetings, and School Council and/or Better Seeking Team meetings.
- Talk to my family about the independent skills I've learned at school and practice these skills at home.

*\*In education, the term **stakeholder** refers to anyone who is invested in the welfare and success of a school and its students, including administrators, teachers, staff members, students, families, community members, business leaders, and elected officials.*



**DIVISION OF**  
**State Schools**

**Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent**  
*"Educating Georgia's Future"*

**Dr. Cindy Gibson, Superintendent**  
**Georgia Academy for the Blind**

**School – Student - Family Compact**  
***Georgia Academy for the***  
***School Year 2018-19***

August 4, 2019

Dear GAB families,

Participating in the Title I, Part A program, The Georgia Academy for the Blind's staff, students, and their families agree that this compact outlines how each of us will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. This compact also describes how school and families will build and develop a partnership that will help students achieve Georgia's high standards.

Please sign and date below to acknowledge that you have read, received, and agree to this School-Student-Family Compact. Once signed, please return this form to your child's teacher and keep the Compact as a reminder of your commitment. The Compact will be discussed with you throughout the year at different school-family events as we work together to help your child succeed in school.

We look forward to our school-family partnership!

*Please sign below and return this entire form to Jennifer Minter, GAB's Parent Mentor*

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

School representative signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Family member signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Indicate role: parent    grandparent    aunt/uncle    foster parent    other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_