The Evans International Elementary School (EIES) community believes that the academic achievement of each student is a responsibility shared by families, school and the broader community. The school staff wanted to make sure that all stakeholders (school district, school administration, staff members, students, families, and community members) supported this belief. As a result, they took the required Title I Family-School Compact from compliance to commitment.

The goal of the School-Family Compact is to celebrate and display the team effort between parents, students, and teachers to increase student growth. At Back to School Night, the principal designated a table for posters with the School Family Compact for students, parents, and staff members to sign. There were also brochures of the compact available for parents to take home and review. The compact is something that the parents, students, and teachers pledge to do throughout the school year to increase academic achievement for every child.

When you walk into Evans International Elementary School, the Family Compact Posters are displayed as you walk in and throughout the hallways. Teachers also have the Compact Posters in their classrooms and review what is on them to remind students that the community, staff, and themselves that they are working as a team to increase their academic achievement.

The district’s family engagement point-person offers the following advice to those wanting to replicate the practice: “In addition to having the posters out to sign on Back to School Night, it would also be a good idea to move the posters from classroom to classroom on the first day of school so each teacher could explain the compact and every student could sign it.”