

Answers to Your Questions

What is the Title I Program?

The *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* significantly raised expectations for all schools in that all students will meet or exceed standards. Title I Programs provide technical assistance, resources, and program monitoring of local education agencies to ensure that all children have an opportunity to obtain a high quality education and to achieve proficiency on high academic standards.

Who is eligible to participate in the Title I Program?

The local district determines which schools are eligible to receive Title I NCLB funds. Schools with enrollment of 35% or more students from low-income families. Schools with enrollment of 40% or more students are eligible to operate a schoolwide Title I program.

How may Title I funds be used?

- ◆ Instruction
- ◆ Class reduction
- ◆ Instructional supplies, materials and services
- ◆ Additional teachers and paraprofessionals
- ◆ Summer School
- ◆ Parent Resource Center and Coordinator

Why is it important for parents to be involved under Title I?

According to the National PTA: “Over thirty years of research has proven beyond dispute the positive connection between parent involvement and student success. Effectively engaging parents and families in the education of their children have potential to be far more beneficial than any other type of educational reform”.

What are the benefits of parental involvement?

For Students:

- ◆ Higher achievement in reading
- ◆ Better attendance
- ◆ Positive attitudes and behaviors
- ◆ Higher grades and test scores with fewer placements in special education
- ◆ Higher graduation rates and greater enrollment rates in postsecondary education.

For Parents:

- ◆ Higher esteem for teachers
- ◆ A deeper understanding of educational programs and how the school works.
- ◆ Increased confidence in their ability to help their children learn at home
- ◆ Increased confidence and support for their children

For School:

- ◆ Higher student achievement
- ◆ Increased student attendance
- ◆ Higher staff morale
- ◆ Improved school atmosphere
- ◆ A network of supportive parents and communities

What information must be provided to parents under Title I?

- ◆ Student Progress and Achievement
- ◆ How your child’s school is performing
- ◆ Professional qualification of your child’s teachers.

(All teachers and paraprofessional working in Title I schools in Elbert County School System are considered “highly qualified”.)

- ◆ **Written Parent Involvement Policy** – a description of how the school system or school will support the important role of parents in the education of their children.
- ◆ **School-Parent Compact** – a written statement of what schools, students, and parents are supposed to do to help students achieve.

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