

MARGATE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS **BASIC SKILLS PROGRAM**

What is Basic Skills Improvement?

Basic Skills Improvement is a program for students who need extra help in learning basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills. Students receive instruction both in their regular classroom and in a small-group instruction area. Students in Margate receive basic skills instruction that is partially funded by Title I of the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*.

What Children are Included in BSI Programs?

Children who have been identified as having difficulty in making normal educational progress in basic skills in math and/or English Language Arts are eligible for this program.

All New Jersey students must be assessed in basic skills each year to determine which students are meeting proficiency standards. The results of these assessments are to be used in determining which students are in need of services in basic skills improvement.

The Margate City Public School district uses multiple measures of assessment including standardized test scores, classroom performance, as well as a comprehensive checklist completed by the classroom teacher covering a variety of academic performance areas including speaking, reading, writing, spelling, mathematics, memory, and organizational skills.

Basic Skills Summer School

All students who are part of the Basic Skills program are eligible to attend a free Summer School program that runs for four weeks every summer. The Title I (BSI) Summer Program is designed for students in grades kindergarten through seventh grade. The program uses supplemental materials to reinforce subject areas taught in the regular classrooms. Small group instruction is an integral part of our program.

In Reading – comprehension and basic reading skills are stressed at all grade levels. Language development, phonics, and readiness skills are part of the kindergarten curriculum.

In Math – hands-on materials and math workbooks are used to strengthen the students' math skills along with basic understanding in each grade.

Both Reading and Math programs are supplemented by educational software.

How May Parents Support and Reinforce the School's Role?

Opportunities for learning are best served when my child:

- Attends school regularly
- Gets enough sleep
- Receives enough to eat through meals at home or through school lunch programs
- Follows school rules
- Does the assigned homework
- Brings home and shares corrected work
- Demonstrates respect for the school and staff
- Knows you are interested in his/her progress and problems
- Has a quiet place to study
- Is encouraged to feel that education is important

Positive self-concept contributes to success. You can help your child by:

- Setting rules and guidelines at home
- Assigning tasks and responsibilities
- Establishing routines
- Giving praise for accomplishments
- Spending time together
- Encouraging attempts at new things
- Providing a happy home environment
- Showing and demonstrating affection
- Disciplining when it is needed
- Providing support where there is frustration and failure
- Setting goals and standards that are realistic and attainable
- Providing opportunities for success
- Showing interest in academic work and school activities
- Discussing and solving personal problems together

Please sign the agreement on the next page and have your child return it to his/her homeroom teacher.

As a requirement of the recent ESSA legislation, I as a parent of a child in Margate's Basic Skills program, am aware of and agree to the following:

Both my child's Basic Skills teachers and aides (paraprofessionals) meet the Margate Public Schools' qualifications to work with your children:

- Hold at least a bachelor's degree
- Be fully certified/licensed by New Jersey; and
- Demonstrate competence in each of the core academic subjects in which the teacher teaches.
- All paraprofessionals must hold at least an Associate's Degree or successfully complete the PARAPROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION TEST.

1. I will communicate with my child's teachers during the course of the year either in person (at conferences, Open House, etc.), by e-mail, or on the phone to discuss my child's progress.

2. I understand the shared responsibility (outlined on the previous page) that is necessary for improving that academic achievement of my child.

Child's Name (print)

Parent's Signature

Date

If you do not wish to have your child receive services, please indicate that desire below this statement on this form...Thank you