

MARGATE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BASIC SKILLS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

EUGENE A. TIGHE MIDDLE SCHOOL

What is the Basic Skills Instruction Program (BSI)?

Basic Skills instruction is an academic intervention program for students who are struggling to meet grade level expectations in English Language Arts and Mathematics. As the middle tier of the RTI (Response to Intervention) national model, students receive specialized instruction both in their regular classroom and in a small-group setting to strengthen their literacy and math skills. 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?

All New Jersey students in grades 3-8 must be assessed in Mathematics and English Language Arts each year to determine if they are meeting grade level expectations. The results of these assessments can be used in determining which students are in need of services in basic skills improvement. Children who have been identified as having difficulty making normal educational progress in these areas are eligible for this program.

The Margate City Public School district uses multiple measures of assessment including standardized test scores, curriculum-based formal and informal classroom assessments, and classroom performance based on teacher observations covering a variety of academic performance areas including reading, writing, spelling, and mathematics skills.

How Does the BSI Program Work?

In the middle school, students receive additional daily support within their scheduled ELA and/or math classroom by a qualified co-teacher or paraprofessional. The basic skills teacher supports the classroom teacher's curriculum to provide continuity of instruction while remediating student deficiencies.

Parents will receive regular updates regarding their child's progress through report cards, interim progress reports, and parent/teacher conferences. Throughout the school year, students who participate in the program will be monitored to determine progress and either will continue or exit the program.

Basic Skills Summer School

All students who are part of the Basic Skills Instruction Program are eligible to attend a free summer school program, partially funded by Title I of the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*. The BSI Summer School runs for four weeks every summer. Designed for students in kindergarten through seventh grade, the program uses supplemental materials and educational software to strengthen reading comprehension, language arts, and basic math skills. Small group instruction is an integral part of our program.

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

Opportunities for learning are best served when a child:

- Attends school regularly
- Gets enough sleep
- Receives enough to eat 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:

- Reading to your child
- 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.

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Statement of Basic Skills Services Agreement

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 paraprofessionals meet the Margate Public Schools' qualifications to work with 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 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 email, Classtag, 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 the academic achievement of my child.

_____I give permission for my child to participate in the Basic Skills Instruction Program.

_____I do not give permission for my child to participate in the Basic Skills Instruction Program.

Child's Name (print):_____Grade:_____

Parent/Guardian Signature:_____Date: _____