



Mountain Lakes School District

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Mrs. Ivonne Ciresi
Assistant Superintendent

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Dear Parents:

The *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* is our country's most well-known federal education law. In 2015 this law was reauthorized as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). It was designed to help schools make changes in teaching and learning in order to provide equal access to education for all. As part of ESSA, financial assistance is offered to eligible schools through Title I grant funds.

The Mountain Lakes School District has qualified to receive Title I funding for the 2023-2024 academic year. Our Title 1 funding is not based on state test scores nor performance data of any kind, but rather it is based on economic data obtained from the most recent census. Since we are entitled to this funding, we accepted it and the requirements as to how it can be used. Under ESSA Title I, we are required to use the funds to address the educational needs of our most academically at-risk students.

District benchmarks and assessments are administered at each school to monitor students' academic progress and design lessons to address our students' needs. We will be using multiple measures to determine who is in need of academic interventions. Once we determine eligibility, we will be offering academic intervention supports to eligible students in the form of before or after school basic skills programs. The purpose of the program is to help students improve targeted skills that were assessed below the expected benchmark. These services will be provided by highly qualified certified teachers. If your child is eligible, further information will be forthcoming from your child's school.

Sincerely,