



Title I Program

OVERVIEW OF THE TITLE I SCHOOL-WIDE PROGRAM

What is Title I?

Title I is the largest federal funding program for education. Title I provides financial assistance through State Educational Agencies (SEAs) to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) and public schools with high numbers or percentages of poor children to help ensure that all children meet challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards.

LEA's target the Title I funds they receive to public schools with the highest percentages of children from low-income families. Schools enrolling at least 40 percent of students from poor families are eligible to use Title I funds for school-wide programs that serve all children in the school.

Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging State academic standards in order to reinforce and amplify efforts to improve teaching and learning for students farthest from meeting State standards. Individual public schools with poverty rates above 40 percent may use Title I funds, along with other Federal, State, and local funds, to operate a "school-wide program" to upgrade the instructional program for the whole school.

All three PreK-8 schools in Alleghany County have been designated as Title I Schoolwide programs:

- School-wide programs:
- plan for comprehensive, long-term improvement
- serve all students with highly qualified teachers and paraprofessionals
- provide continuous learning for staff, parents, and the community
- use research-based practices to develop and implement enriched instruction for all students
- use inclusive approaches to strengthen the school's organizational structure
- consolidate resources to achieve program goals
- engage in continuous self-assessment and improvement

Title I Components

- All Title I schools must complete a comprehensive needs assessment that drives all aspects of school operations.
- School reform strategies must be implemented to address the identified needs.
- There must be high quality and ongoing professional development for staff to address the needs of the school.
- Parent involvement is critical and integral part of day-to-day operations in a Title I School.
- Strategies are in place to aid in the transitions between academic grade levels, as well as school levels, i.e., pre-school to kindergarten and elementary to middle school.
- Teachers are actively involved in the use of assessments and instructional decisions are driven by data analysis.
- Title I schools develop specific instructional activities for students identified with the greatest needs.
- Title I schools coordinate and integrate resources and services from federal, state, and local sources



The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Title I Parent and Family Engagement Requirements

- ❖ The School District and all Title I schools must allocate at least one percent (1%) of their Title I budget towards programs, activities, and procedures for parent and family engagement.
- ❖ The School District and all Title I schools must develop with and distribute to, parents and family members, a written Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan (PFEP).
- ❖ All Title I schools are required to collaborate with parents and families in the development of the School Improvement Process (SIP) and School-Parent Compact.

Allegheny County Schools uses Title I Funds to:

- ❖ Hire additional teachers to reduce class size
- ❖ Purchase materials and supplies
- ❖ Provide and support parent involvement activities



Parents' Rights to Know

- Request the qualifications of your child's teacher
- Be notified if your child is taught for more than four consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified
- Request opportunities for regular meetings with staff in order to make suggestions
- Participate in decisions relating to the education of your child
- Submit in written comment on the school-wide program plan when the school makes the plan available to the district.

What Does Parent Engagement mean for a Title I School-wide School?

Parent activities can include:

- Family Activities
- Parent Meetings
- Parent Trainings
- Materials that parents can use at home to work with their children

Parent and Family Engagement Policy

DEFINITION OF PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- For the purposes of this policy, the term “parent and family engagement” means the participation of parents, guardians and other family members in regular, two-way and meaningful communication involving student learning and other school activities, including ensuring the following:
 - 1. That parents and family members play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
 - 2. That parents and family members are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;
 - 3. That parents are full partners in their child’s education and parents and family members are included, as appropriate, in decision making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
 - 4. That the school system utilizes activities to support parent and family engagement in the Title I programs.

The Parent and Family Engagement Policy for Alleghany County Schools is located on each schools website under the “Parent” tab and Title I page as well as the district Title I page.

School-Parent Compact

- Each Title I school must have a School-Parent Compact that is developed jointly by parents and school personnel.
- The compact sets out the responsibilities of the students, parents, and school staff in striving to raise student achievement.
- School-Parent Compacts are located on the school web site under the “Parents” tab.

Questions or comments about Title I may be sent to:

- Elementary School Principals or
- Melissa Fitzgerald, Director of Federal Programs
Allegheny County Schools
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