

# 2024 - 2025 Annual Title I Meeting

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Freedom Middle School

September 10, 2024

Charles E. Farmer, Ph.D.

# Why are we here?

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- The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that each Title I school hold an annual meeting of Title I families in order to:
  - inform you of your school's participation in Title I,
  - explain the requirements of Title I, and
  - explain your rights as parents and family members to be involved.

# What will I learn?

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- What is a Title I school?
- What are my rights?
- What can Title I funds be used for?
- What is the SIP?
- What are our schoolwide program goals?
- What is the Parent and Family Engagement Policy?
- What is the School-Parent Compact?
- How can I be involved?
- Who can I contact for help?

# What is a Title I school?

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- Title I was passed in 1965 under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). It is the largest federal assistance program for our nation's schools. It was reauthorized in 2015 as ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act).
- Title I schools receive extra funding (Title I dollars) from the federal government. These dollars are used to:
  - identify students experiencing academic difficulties and provide assistance to help these students;
  - purchase additional staff, programs, materials, and/or supplies; and
  - conduct parent and family engagement meetings, trainings, events, and/or activities.

# What are my rights?

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- The families and parents of Title I students have a right, by law, to:
  - be involved in decisions made at both the school and district level;
  - be provided with information on your child's level of achievement on tests in reading/language arts, writing, mathematics, and science;
  - request and receive information on the qualifications of your child's teacher and paraprofessionals who are working with your child by emailing Dr. Farmer at [farmercha@fssd.org](mailto:farmercha@fssd.org), and
  - request opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of your child. The school is required to respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

# What can Title I funds be used for?

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- In general, Title I funds may be used for:
  - smaller class sizes,
  - additional teachers and paraprofessionals,
  - additional training for school staff,
  - extra time for instruction (before and/or after school programs),
  - parent and family engagement activities, and/or
  - a variety of supplemental teaching materials, equipment, and technology.

# How does our school use Title I funds?

<i>Carryover funds for FMS</i>	<b>\$3,833.50</b>		
<b>TOTAL Budget</b>	<b>\$59,732.70</b>	<i>adjusted total \$</i>	<b>\$63,566.20</b>
<b>Budget Category</b>	<b>Budget Code</b>	<b>Budget Tag</b>	<b>FMS</b>
Instructional Supplies & Materials	71100 429	Academics	\$41,517.70
Technology Equipment	71100 722	Academics	\$3,833.50
PBIS/Office Supplies & Materials	72210 499	Student Readiness	\$200.00
Professional Learning	72210 524	Educators	\$16,215.00
Parent & Family Engagement	72210 599	Student Readiness	\$1,500.00
SpEd/Support Materials	72130 499	Student Readiness	\$300.00
			<b>\$63,566.20</b>

# How does our school use Title I funds?

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- For 2024-2025, our school has been allotted approximately **\$63,566.20** in Title I funding.
- We developed a **Schoolwide Program**, which means we plan to spend our funds on the following:
  - **Professional Learning**
    - PLC at Work Conference
    - Teacher-specific opportunities
    - School-wide, onsite presenters
  - **Programs/Materials/Supplies:**
    - Teacher Resources (MasteryConnect, LiveSchool, NearPod)
    - Literacy (Novels for students, Author visit, etc.)
    - English Language Learner Resources
    - PBIS Materials
    - Special Education Resources
- **Family Engagement:**
  - Quarterly events (Meet & Greet, Family Tech Night, Literacy Night, etc.)



# What is the SIP?

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- The SIP is the School Improvement Plan. It includes:
  - the identification of the school planning team and how they will be engaged in the planning process;
  - a needs assessment and summary of academic and non-academic data;
  - prioritized goals, strategies, and action steps to help address the academic and non-academic needs of students;
  - teacher and staff professional development needs; and
  - budgets and the coordination of resources.
- The school must include family representatives on our school planning team.

# What are our school-wide program goals?

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- Increasing academic achievement/growth: Math and ELA
- Support students' well-being and safety
- Supporting English Learner subgroup

# What curriculum does our school use?

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- The Tennessee Academic Standards provide a common set of expectations for what students will know and be able to do at the end of a grade for each subject area.
- Tennessee's academic standards form the framework for everything taught at Freedom Middle School.
- For more information about Tennessee's academic standards, see: <https://www.tn.gov/education/districts/academic-standards.html>

# What tests will my child be taking?

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- FMS students take the following universal screeners 3 times each year:
  - iReady Diagnostic Math Assessment
  - STAR Reading Assessment
- Intervention Groups are based on universal screeners:
  - Tier 2A - 26% - 40%
  - Tier 2B - 11% - 25%
  - Tier 3 - 10% or below
- Quarterly Benchmarks:
  - October, December and March
- TNReady in the Spring of 2025

# How can I be involved?

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- We need you! Research has proven that family engagement in education has more impact on student achievement than any other factor. If you wish to be involved with any committees at Freedom Middle - SIP, Parent and Family Engagement, School-Parent Compact, etc. - please call the office at (615)794-0987 or email Dr. Farmer at [farmercha@fssd.org](mailto:farmercha@fssd.org).

# How can I be involved?

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- Make sure your child attends school regularly with minimal absences;
- Monitor grades and schoolwork through Skyward;
- Attend family events and meetings (such as PTO, parent nights, etc.);
- Join family groups and committees;
- Review the principal's weekly update sent out through ParentSquare; and
- Reading all teacher communications regarding your student's learning.

# Who can I contact for help?

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- For general questions, call the front office at: (615) 794-0987
- To reach the principal, Charles Farmer, email: [farmercha@fssd.org](mailto:farmercha@fssd.org)
- To reach the assistant principals,
  - 7th grade, Adam Demonbreun, email: [demonbreunada@fssd.org](mailto:demonbreunada@fssd.org)
  - 8th grade, Lauren Bauer, email: [bauerlau@fssd.org](mailto:bauerlau@fssd.org)
- To reach the school counselors,
  - Andrea Holman, email: [holmanand@fssd.org](mailto:holmanand@fssd.org)
  - Becca Dorobiala Henegar, email: [henegardorobialareb@fssd.org](mailto:henegardorobialareb@fssd.org)
- To reach our family liaison, Diane Price, email: [pricedia@fssd.org](mailto:pricedia@fssd.org)
- To reach your child's teacher, call the front office or email them directly