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Title I Schoolwide Plan  
For  
Effingham Elementary School

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## Introduction

Effingham Elementary School is a small, rural school serving students in grades Kindergarten through sixth grade. It is located in Effingham, NH along the Maine border. Effingham Elementary School (EES) has 125 projected students for the 2024-2025 school year. The free and reduced lunch rate for 2022-2023 was 39.42%. 2022-2023 was the first year, post pandemic, that families have had to complete an application for free and reduced meals. Calculating a true rate is challenging. EES is part of the Governor Wentworth Regional School District; geographically the largest school district in New Hampshire. As a whole, the district serves about 2400 students. There are six elementary schools within the district. EES has a diverse make-up of students. Demographic data from the 2023-2024 school year shows that 35.58% of students are from a split home, 8.65% of students are being raised by grandparents, 4.96% of students are court/DCYF involved, 10.58% of students are living with extended families, 14% of students are receiving support for weekend food insecurity, 9.62% of students are suspected or confirmed of exposure to ACEs. Family engagement and support is a piece of data that should be kept track of and quantified in some fashion. For the 2024-2025 school year, EES hopes that school will continue to be a safe and welcoming place. Recent safety and security protocols have been put in place to strengthen the response to an intruder. This includes keeping all external and internal doors in a closed and locked position throughout the time students are in the building. The educational staff is composed of 11 full time-equivalent teachers, 7.5 paraprofessionals and .6 administrator. The district has a Director of Curriculum and a math coach who are shared amongst the schools in the district.

### **Plan Components**

#### **Comprehensive Needs Assessment:**

In the fall, Effingham parents indicate what they would like to experience in the year ahead to help support their child's education through the Parent Survey. Each spring, parents evaluate the Title I program and school through the Parent Evaluation. The information gathered from both instruments is used to plan educational family events for the following school year. Effingham school staff utilizes Acadience, NHSAS components, and Exact Path progress monitoring data to determine individual student academic needs in the area of reading. In the area of math, information from students' District Math Benchmark Assessments, Exact Path progress monitoring data, Eureka Math Modules and the NHSAS are used to determine the individual focus for each student. Information is reviewed three to four times per year with teachers during Data Team Meetings. The Data Team is composed of multiple stakeholders. Data Team meetings are used to review data and plan the necessary student intervention. Students and families who are considered homeless under the McKinney-Vento Act are brought to the attention of the Homeless Liaison and receive Title I services immediately.

### **Research Based Instructional Strategies:**

The Effingham school-wide plan bases its instructional model on research-based practices. Comprehensive literacy instruction focuses on phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension as well as the purposes of literacy and generalized skill acquisition. Comprehensive numeracy instruction is also provided. The model used at Effingham Elementary School is part of a coordinated approach that combines whole group, small group and individual teaching, as well as modeling and providing direct instruction. Needs assessment shows that literacy impacts all aspects of the curriculum and student learning, therefore, the literacy program is our core program. Staff and students at EES continue to work with the district math coach to improve instructional practices and to become more familiar with changes in the core curriculum. As determined by the needs assessment, literacy is an area of need at Effingham Elementary.

### **Instructional Student Support:**

The academic achievements of students new to EES, and of those who have been in attendance at EES, are assessed on a regular basis. The following assessment tools are used at EES: Edmentum/ExactPath, Acadience, NHSAS components, and district developed assessments for math, reading and writing. Struggling students are provided with academic support in areas of need in an environment that best meets their learning style. Support is provided in class, whenever possible, but always in close proximity to a certified teacher. At EES all staff members are invested in the success of all students. Due to our small school size, each classroom teacher will eventually have each student in their classroom. The dynamic is unique. Each professional staff member has a voice in which instructional interventions are delivered. Staff members have the chance to learn from one another and become familiar with the strategies that work with individual students, as well as each student's learning style. Progress monitoring of both literacy and numeracy continues to be an area of need for EES. EES continues to need more staff in the area of instructional support.

### **Parent Involvement:**

Each year Title I is discussed at the Open House held in September and again at the Annual Meeting. The required Title I paperwork is distributed to parents each year in the student/parent handbook along with the "nuts and bolts" information about the school. Title I is a standing item on the monthly PTO agenda. This assures that all parents are able to have ongoing input into the Title I program and grant at Effingham Elementary School. People in attendance at the PTO meetings help to plan parent events, the topics of which are determined by parent input provided via Title I surveys. The surveys are provided in paper or digital format. Work in the area of parent involvement is ongoing! Staff and PTO reach out to parents in an attempt to increase their involvement in our school community. Many teachers have increased the number of parent/teacher meetings during the year. EES teachers and staff continue to refine the best ways to communicate with students and families. Communication is a district wide focus.

### **Professional Development:**

Professional staff annually set professional goals. Teacher's portfolios are shared with building administrators and colleagues every three years. Teachers reflect on the progress meeting their professional goals two times per year. Professional development based staff meetings are held one to two times per month and during district organized Professional Days during the year. The district continually provides PD opportunities through a partnership with Lakes Region Curriculum Associates, University of New Hampshire and Plymouth State University. "In house" staff present also. Teachers are encouraged to attend trainings outside of the district to meet their professional needs. During the 2024 summer, the district will provide a robust and comprehensive list of professional development opportunities for all staff. As new staff members join our community, continued professional development in our core programs is offered (Eureka Math Squared, IMSE, Responsive Classroom). EES continues to seek out professional development for staff that is complementary to our Responsive Classroom foundational training for social-emotional-academic learning. This training encourages that common language be used throughout the school and a child-need focused model of community and relationship building will be in place. As EES continues to move forward, providing professional development to meet family and student needs remains a priority.

### **Preschool Transition:**

Effingham staff members observe and attend team meetings on Effingham students entering kindergarten from the Governor Wentworth Regional School District's integrated preschool in Ossipee or the Head Start program. All incoming kindergarten children are screened at registration in the spring and are encouraged to attend a summer program that offers academic and social support to students. The transitional pre-K summer program is held for all incoming kindergarten students.

### **Instruction by Qualified Staff:**

All teachers hired in the Governor Wentworth School District are certified according to the NH DOE requirements for their grade level and content area. All full time staff members are afforded funds for professional development. All core academic teachers and instructional paraprofessionals meet the highly qualified requirements.

### **Extended Learning Opportunities:**

Effingham Elementary School will continue to offer morning or afternoon tutoring sessions to students as needed. During the 2024-2025 school year, Effingham Elementary School will work their hardest to offer a number of afterschool opportunities which may include Robotics, Talent Show, Spanish Club, Nutritional Cooking Class for Kids, Running Rascals, Felting and a Lunch Bunch Book Club. Summer 2024 student programming was provided by the district.

## **Schoolwide Program Abstract**

Effingham Elementary School's Title 1 Schoolwide plan enables us to meet the needs of all students. Our schoolwide plan allows staff to utilize programs, strategies and resources to address student and family needs in a timely, integrated manner and in a variety of modes as needed. The EES Schoolwide Plan is grounded by the following:

- All students will have the opportunity to access all school materials
- All students in grades 1-6 are assessed and monitored using formal, standardized systems: NHSAS, ExactPath, Acadience
- All parents and families have the opportunity to receive information in areas that support student learning modalities, social and emotional development and learning formats.
- All students have the opportunity to participate in community based experiences
- All students have the opportunity to participate in extended learning opportunities
- All students with areas of need have the opportunity to receive academic support in reading and mathematics.