

Information and Workshops

The Title I office and schools work together to offer a variety of district initiatives and school-level family engagement workshops to improve student academic achievement. A few are listed here:

- School Parent/Family Engagement Workshops
- Conscious Discipline Parent Training
- Social Foundations In-service for staff/parents
- Literacy, Math, and SEL Programs
- Schoology Parent Support
- Educational Equity Citizens Parent Advisory Committee (EECAC) representatives from every Title I School
- Varied opportunities and formats for Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Bilingual Pupil Personnel Worker assigned at 2 Title I Schools
- Judy Center Play Groups in 3 Title I Schools
- 3 Title I Schools are designated as Community Schools (Concentration of Poverty Grant)
- Equity School Site Leaders (ESSLs) in every Title I School
- School Attendance Matters Initiatives
- Spring Title I Parent Survey
- Student Reports on MCAP Performance
- Md State Report Card Data

Coordinating Programs

Title I coordinates and integrates parental involvement activities with other programs to meet the needs of our students and families. Partner programs include Judy Center Early Learning Hubs, Community Schools, St. Mary's Local Management Board Afterschool Programs, St. Mary's County Health Department, English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Pre-K Expansion Grant, McKinney-Vento/Homeless Services, Pupil Service Teams, and Special Education IEP/504-Plan .

St. Mary's County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, or disability in matters affecting employment or providing access to programs.

Title I Schools At-A- Glance

(Source: MD Report Card)

23-24 Enrollment

	<u>Students</u>	<u>FARMS</u>
GWCES	490	100%
LPES	418	100%
PHES	531	83%
GHEs	500	56%

23-24 Attendance Percentage

	<u>Yearly</u>	<u>Missed 18+ days</u>
GWCES	89.8	38
LPES	89.7	40.6
PHES	89.8	42.2
GHEs	92.1	27.9

23-24 Demographics

	<u>AA</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>
GWCES	252	80	128
LPES	198	70	64
PHES	202	161	51
GHEs	192	180	53

23-24 Student Group Percentage

	<u>EL</u>	<u>IEP</u>	<u>Pre-K</u>
GWCES	17	7.2	80 seats
LPES	14.4	10.1	60 seats
PHES	<5	12.8	60 seats
GHEs	<5	29.5	80 seats

Achievement Data

2024 MCAP Proficiency Data – Grade 3

	<u>ELA</u>	<u>Math</u>	<u>Science</u>
GWCES	31.3	26.8	*
LPES	21.8	18.1	*
PHES	49	38.3	*
GHEs	52.9	49	*

2024 MCAP Proficiency Data – Grade 4

	<u>ELA</u>	<u>Math</u>	<u>Science</u>
GWCES	28.1	26.8	*
LPES	31.1	9.3	*
PHES	43.6	38.3	*
GHEs	45.1	39.2	*

2024 MCAP Proficiency Data – Grade 5

	<u>ELA</u>	<u>Math</u>	<u>Science</u>
GWCES	16.1	4.2	7
LPES	12.1	1.4	4.7
PHES	31.7	14.2	11.9
GHEs	52	35.2	25



2024-2025 Title I District Parent and Family Engagement Plan

SMCPS Title I



STRONGER TOGETHER

This plan was jointly developed by the Title I Office staff, parents, and stakeholders. It is available on the SMCPS District and Title I School websites/offices, and local libraries. For more information, translated copies, or accessibility to resources, please contact the Director of Parent and Family Engagement at: cmwoodley@smcps.org or (301) 475-5511, ext. 32243.

District Leadership

Dr. Kelly M. Hall – EEEA Chief
Mrs. Charlottis M. Woodley – Director of PFE
Mrs. Kristin B. Shields – Title I Coordinator

Title I Principals (Elementary Schools)

Mrs. Donna Thorstensen – [George Washington Carver](#)
Mrs. Jennifer Martin – [Green Holly](#)
Dr. Rebecca Schou – [Lexington Park](#)
Mr. Jeffrey DiRenzo – [Park Hall](#)

Our Beliefs

St. Mary's County Public Schools (SMCPS) believes and recognizes PARENTS as the child's first teachers. To establish a collaborative partnership between the home, school, and community, the Title I District Parent and Family Engagement (PFE) Plan outlines Title I grant requirements, strategies, practices, and programs to reach and involve all families and stakeholders. The SMCPS mission is to:

*Know the Learner and the Learning.
Expecting excellence in both with rigor,
relevance, and relationships.*

What is Title I?

Title I is a federally funded program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as reauthorized by Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA). Title I is intended to provide all children a fair and equal opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach at a minimum, proficiency on the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards (MCCRS) and Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP).

The restricted grant provides supplementary funding to improve the teaching and learning of children. Funds are used for programs that supplement and enhance resources that are supported by the SMCPS general budget.

SMCPS operates four (4) schoolwide Title I programs. Schools are identified by the percentage of Free and Reduced Meals (FARMs) students. Each Title I school must conduct a yearly Comprehensive Needs Assessment, that details school demographics, student performance and reform strategies. Parents have multiple opportunities to provide input on ways to improve the Title I program and meet parental needs. A jointly developed Parent and Family Engagement (PFE) Plan and the Home/School Compact are distributed to families in print and electronically during conferences, events, and in children's backpacks. Parents also have multiple opportunities to provide input for practical and allowable uses of funds specifically for Parent and Family Engagement.

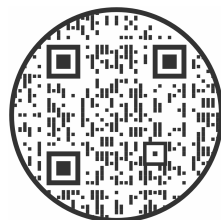
District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC)

The DPAC welcomes all parents and community stakeholders within a Title I school district to participate in quarterly meetings in person or via Zoom. Parental feedback and input on programs, instructional standards and service delivery methods enriches, empowers, and excites an educator's dedication to children. The 2024-2025 meeting schedule is posted on school websites, calendars, newsletters, and on the Equity, Engagement, and Early Access (EEEEA) website.

The DPAC is facilitated by the Director of Parent and Family Engagement and composed of a representative group of parents from each Title I school and stakeholder coordinating programs. The council provides input on Title I PFE reservations, purposeful dialogue and involvement in the planning and implementation of PFE activities, ensure policies, procedures, and practices are examined through an equity lens, and opportunities for building capacity are available to all.

Annual Parent and Stakeholder Survey

The DPAC meeting notes and suggestions are incorporated in the Annual Spring Survey that is distributed to parents, staff, and stakeholders. The survey is printed in English and Spanish and distributed via student backpacks allowing every household to participate. The survey is also accessible on websites and QR Codes in newsletter and school flyers. The survey results are shared annually (July/August) with parents, Title I administrators, the Chief of EEEA, and the Division of Instruction administrators.



YOUR VOICE COUNTS

Ongoing feedback is a means of valuable information being shared with SMCPS leadership. Use the QR Code above to provide your input and suggestions.

We are H . E . A . R

The District Title I staff is Here, Engaged, Approachable, and Renewed to making a positive difference for all stakeholders. They serve families by:

- Offering multi-lingual virtual and in-person assistance to aid parents' understanding of state standards practices to support student achievement
- Providing multi-lingual materials and workshops to support parents as they work with their children in the homes
- Facilitating professional development for school staff and leaders based on survey needs, addressing the school's climate and culture, and best practices for engagement and achievement
- Ensuring timely correspondence on students' academic, social, and physical growth is available and distributed to parents in a format that is understandable, informative, and actionable
- Supporting school-level PFE events which are held at various times and/or venues and providing district level information/resources that support effective communication and connecting with families



Educational Equity

The Title I office strives to ensure every student and family has equitable access to a rigorous yet supportive learning environment. It is important that individual and unique student/family challenges are addressed, and appropriate actions are made to eliminate any gaps between academic and non-academic student groups.

To the extent practicable, the district and schools will provide varied opportunities for all families regardless of socioeconomic status, home language, disability, or family dynamics the assurance of diverse educational opportunities. Translated documents are provided in English and Spanish, as well as other