

# Attendance



Welcome to the  
Title I Annual Meeting  
for Parents & Families  
2025 - 2026

Hickory Grove Elementary

Date: 9/23/25



HICKORY GROVE

W I L D C A T S

# Welcome Introductions

*Matthew Bower, Principal*

*Monica Pitt, Assistant Principal*

*Sabrina Mikesell, Dean of Students*

3

# Why are we here?

The *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015, requires that each Title I School hold an Annual Meeting for parents/families/community members for the purpose of:

- Informing you of your school's participation in Title I services
- Explaining the requirements of Title I, Part A
- Explaining your rights as parents to be engaged

# Meeting Overview

- What is a Title I school and what it means to be a Title I school
- Required Set-Aside for parent and family engagement
- The CMS Parent and Family Engagement Policy
- How the annual evaluation of the CMS Parent and Family Engagement Policy is conducted
- School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
- School Improvement Plan (SIP) in NCStar
- School-Parent Compact
- How to request the qualifications of my child's teacher(s)
- How parents will be notified if my child is taught by a teacher who is not deemed to be qualified by teacher licensing standards in the North Carolina ESSA Accountability Plan

# What is a Title I school?

Title I is the largest federally funded educational program. A Title I school is a school receiving federal funds for students. The basic principle of Title I is that schools with large concentrations of low-income students receive supplemental funds to meet students' educational goals.

# What does it mean to be a Title I School?

- Being a Title I school means receiving federal funding (Title I dollars) to supplement the school's existing programs. These dollars are used for the following:
  - Identifying students experiencing academic difficulties and providing timely assistance to help students meet the state's challenging content standards.
  - Purchasing supplemental staff/programs/materials/supplies
  - Conducting parent and family engagement meetings/trainings/activities
  - Recruiting/Hiring/Retaining Highly-Qualified Teachers
- Being a Title I school also means encouraging ongoing parent and family engagement and advocating for parents' rights

# How are Title I funds used in our school?

- *Teacher Assistants*
- *Behavior Modification Technician*
- *Parent Involvement*
- *Professional Development for staff*
- *Substitutes for staff professional development*
- *Tutoring services*
- *Supplies and materials (books, technology)*

# What is the 1% set-aside and how are parents involved?

- Any Local Education Agency (LEA) or school district with a Title I Allocation exceeding \$500,000 is required by law to set aside 1% of the Title I allocation for parent and family engagement.
- Of that 1%, 10% may be reserved at the LEA/district level for system-wide initiatives related to parent and family engagement. The remaining 90% must be allocated to all Title I schools in the district. In CMS, each Title I school receives its portion of the 90% to implement school-level parent and family engagement activities and events
- Title I parents have the right to provide input into decisions regarding how this money is spent. This process is completed through the School Improvement Team (SIT)

# Parent and Family Engagement Allocation

- How we are spending our Title I funds:
  - Curriculum Nights (2)
    - Take-home materials to support students at home
    - Food & drinks
  - EOG Boost Camps (1)
    - Take-home materials to support students at home
    - Food & drinks
  - ACCESS ML Family Nights
    - Take-home materials to support students at home

# What is the CMS Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

- This policy addresses how the district or LEA will implement the parent and family engagement requirements of the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*. It includes the following:
  - The district's expectations for parents
  - How CMS will engage parents in decision-making
  - How the district will work to build the schools' and parents' capacities in the implementation of effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement
- Parents and families in Title I schools have the right to be engaged in the review/evaluation of this annual policy

# What is the School Improvement Plan/NCStar Plan?

The School Improvement Plan (SIP) is created in an online platform called NCStar and includes:

- A Comprehensive Needs Assessment
  - Goals and Strategies to Address Academic Needs of Students
  - Professional Development Needs
  - Coordination of Resources and Comprehensive Budget
  - The School's Parent and Family Engagement Goals
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- Parents of students at Title I schools have the right to be engaged in the development of this plan
  - Access the SIP on our website: <http://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/hickorygroveES>

# What is included in the School's Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

- This policy addresses how the school will implement the parent and family engagement requirements of the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*. Components include the following:
  - How parents can be engaged in decision-making and activities
  - How parent and family engagement funds are being used
  - How information and training will be provided to parents
  - How the school will build capacity in parents and staff for strong parent and family engagement
- Parents of students at Title I schools have the right to be engaged in the development of the school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy

# What is the School Compact?

- The compact is a commitment from the school, the parent/family, and the student, to share in the responsibility for improved academic achievement
- Parents and families of students in Title I schools have the right to be involved in the revision/review of the School Compact

# Who are the parent leaders at my school?

Name

Email address

Rafael Noguera

[rafaelnoguera@gmail.com](mailto:rafaelnoguera@gmail.com)

Victoria King

[vlking26.vk@gmail.com](mailto:vlking26.vk@gmail.com)

Interpreter: Oleya Mcrae

School's Title I Compliance Contact: Monica Pitt

# Volunteer Opportunities

- Join parent leadership groups such as PTO, PTSA, PTSA, booster clubs, etc.
- Become a member of the School Improvement Team and/or attend meetings
- Volunteer to contact other parents/families regarding important school information
- Attend academic events occurring at your child's school
- Participate in opportunities that support school activities
- Support Teacher appreciation activities
- Assist with class parties
- Attend parent conferences
- Tutor students
- Please call Ebony Northern, School Counselor or email to learn about volunteer opportunities

# How do I request the qualifications of my child's teachers?

- Title I parents and families have the right to request the qualifications of their child's teachers. The "Parent Right to Know" letter is linked to the school's website and contains the form to request the teacher's qualifications
- Option: <https://hickorygroves.cmsk12.org/>
- Requests should be completed by the school within 30 days.

# How will I be notified if my child is taught by a teacher who is not Highly-Qualified?

- Being Highly Qualified in NC means you have successfully passed the licensure exams required or received alternate licensure in a way set out by NC law.
- Parents and families are notified if teachers do not meet ESSA's requirements for Highly-Qualified
- Parents may request information on teacher qualifications in writing

# Parent Concerns or Questions?

- Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school at 980-343-6464 and our front office will direct your call to the appropriate staff member.

# North Carolina Standard Course of Study

- The full North Carolina Standard Course of Study (NCSCOS) can be viewed using the link below:  
<http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/curriculum/>
- For more information about the NCSCOS and professional development at your school site, **please reach out to Matthew Bower, Principal.**

# Proud Points

At Hickory Grove, we believe in every child and that “every student matters” mentality has led to some powerful results such as:

- Moving up two letter grades in the state’s School Performance rating over the past two years. This year we are a C with the goal of moving up to a B.
- We exceeded growth as a school for the second consecutive year with overall growth indexes of 3.71 and 3.24 respectively.
- Our EOG composite has improved in both GLP and CCR for three years in a row, showing sustained progress. GLP has increased by a total of 17.9% and CCR by 10% during this timespan.
- Every identified subgroup met or exceeded growth expectations, while the number of English Learners meeting their annual goals improved by 38%

# Thank you for being here!

- Questions? Email **Principal Matthew Bower** or call him at school at **980-343-6464**

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