

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

Pinewood Elementary
September 29, 2025



Welcome Introductions



Natasha Pegram, Principal

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?

- Staffing Positions (Teacher, Parent Advocate)
- Parent Involvement
- Professional Development for staff
- Substitutes for staff professional development
- Tutoring services (HEART)
- Supplies and materials (ie. at home supports, student supplies etc.)

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:
 1. Take home folders
 2. Student Agendas
 3. Parent Events (Math Night, Literacy Night etc.)
 4. Take home materials/supplies to support at home learning.

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: <https://www.cmsk12.org/pinewoodES>
 - User Name: guests7114
 - Password: guests7114

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?

Cynthia Newell - PTA Chair

Wendy Chile- PTA Co-Chair

Lamyiah Henderson- PTA Secretary

Vacant - PTA Treasurer (*If interested please notify someone at the check-in table*).

School's Title I Compliance Contact: Courtney Hines

Volunteer Opportunities

- Join parent leadership groups such as PTA, 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
- Attend parent conferences
- Tutor students

Please call Sarah Barnett @ sarahe.barnett@cms.k12.nc.us 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
- <https://www.cmsk12.org/pinewoodES>
- 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?

- Contact your child's teacher for any concerns regarding any classroom questions or concerns.
- If you need further guidance about transportation, student records or immunization questions please contact the front office.

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, K-2 and 3-5 Master Content Teachers Courtney Hines K-2 and Kennedy Taylor 3-5 .

Proud Points

Our focus this year is:

- Strengthening our student, parent and staff support
- Creating a welcoming, safe and clean learning environment
- Delivering high yielding quality instruction.

We celebrate our strong community faith based and community partnerships and appreciate all that they contribute to our school as they provide support for our students and staff.

EXCEEDED Growth overall as a school for 2 years in a row and in subgroup areas of:

- Hispanic
- Economically Disadvantaged students
- English Language Learners
- Reading

- **Tardy and Early Dismissal Process**

Please do your best not to be Tardy or have students be dismissed early and miss instructional time. The more time they miss out of school the more of an impact that it will have on their academic performance.

- Parents must come inside to sign in students that arrive late. It is the same process for early dismissal for students to be dismissed from class. Please note no students will be dismissed past 2:15 p.m.
- **Excessive tardies will require resubmission of proof of address information.**
- **Pinewood Parent Handbook** will be available through link sent through parent square.

A Few Announcements

- **Pick -Up**

Students should be picked up by 3:20. Families that are consistently late picking up students will be asked to utilize bus transportation services or to go to their home school if this is not their designated home school.

Walkers

If you are not a neighborhood walker I am asking that you stay in your car and drive through the car rider line. Walkers are for neighborhood walkers.

- **Homework**

There will be homework for reading and math for every student. Please make sure that students complete homework. It is important that students are reading daily in order increase their decoding, fluency and comprehensions skills.

Thank you for being here! We hope that the information that will be shared today will help your students have a successful school year.