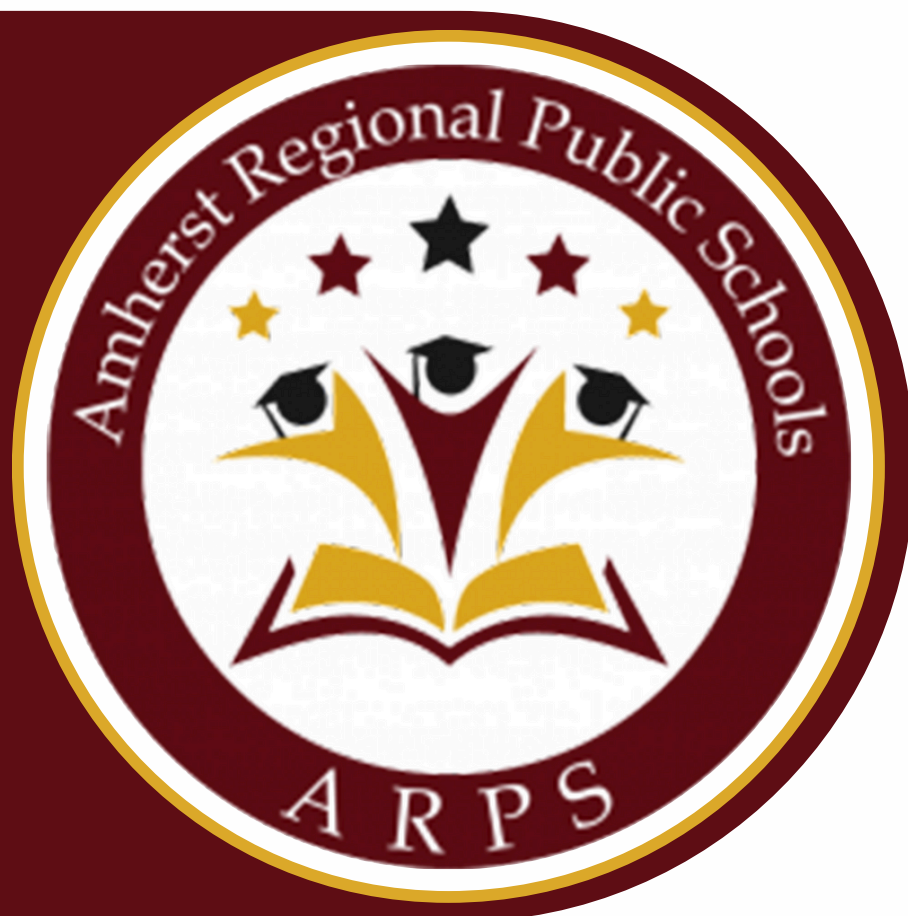


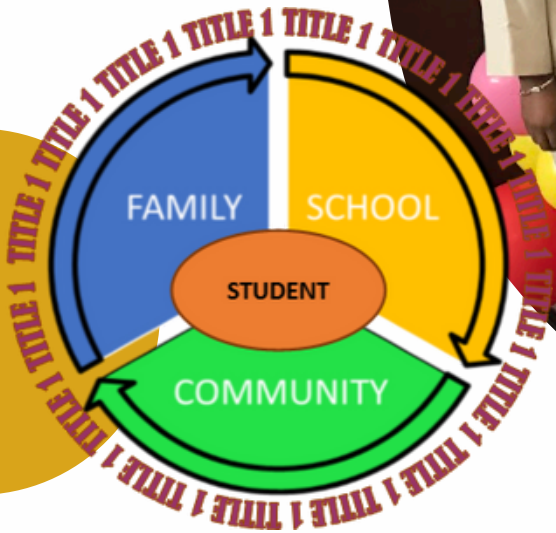
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# **Title 1 Program Family Handbook**

**Office of Teaching & Learning  
Amherst Regional Public Schools**

**2025**



**DR. E. XIOMARA HERMAN**

Superintendent

# Welcome to the Title 1 Program at Amherst Regional Public Schools!

Greetings ARPS Families,

We are pleased to welcome you to the Title 1 program at Amherst Regional Public Schools. This handbook provides important information about the services designed to support your child's academic success.

Our priorities at ARPS are student safety and well-being, healing and stabilizing our district, and ensuring data-driven accountability for equity. Guided by our motto—We are Accountable, Respectful, Professional, and Student-Centered—we are committed to creating a nurturing and inclusive environment for all students.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's Title 1 teacher, principal, or the Office of Teaching and Learning.

We look forward to partnering with you in supporting your child's learning and growth.

Have a great year,

**Dr. Xi**

Superintendent

Amherst Regional Public Schools

# ARPS

## TITLE 1 STAFF



### **Fort River Elementary School**

Phone: 413-362-1200

Pamela Barsalou, Reading Specialist

Frances Lonergan, Title I Intervention Teacher

Christina Correra, Title I Intervention Teacher



### **Wildwood Elementary School**

Phone: 413-362-1400

Taryn LaRaja, Reading Specialist

Beth Chesworth, Title I Intervention Teacher

Susanne Michel, Title I Intervention Teacher

Mary Brandt, Title I Intervention Paraeducator

Kristina Tomasic, Title I Intervention Paraeducator



### **Amherst Regional Middle School**

Phone: 413-362-1800

Jonathan Newman, Title I Math Intervention Teacher

Victoria Munroe, Title 1 Reading Specialist



### **Title 1 District Coordinator**

### **CIA Administration Officer**

Phone: 413-362-1824

Stephanie R. Joyce

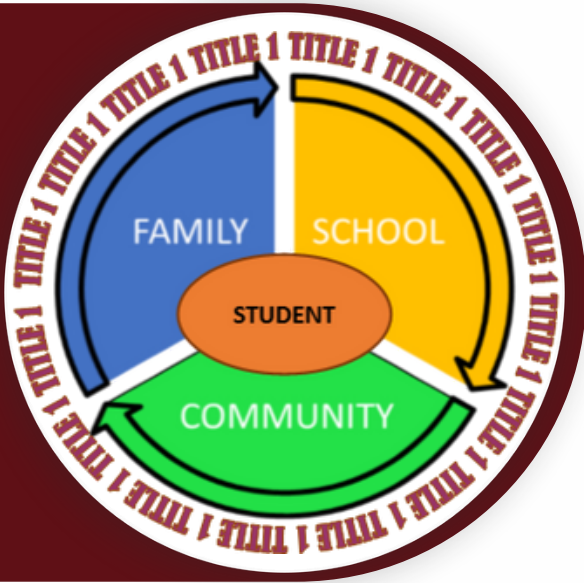
Amherst Public Schools District

Office of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

Email: [joyces@arps.org](mailto:joyces@arps.org)

# What is Title I?

Title I, Part A of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), provides financial assistance to states and school districts to meet the needs of educationally at-risk students. The goal of Title I is to provide extra instructional services and activities to support students identified as at risk of failing to meet the state's challenging performance standards. In Amherst, Title I services are specifically used for supplemental instruction in literacy and mathematics in the following ways:



**1**

**Targeted assistance in literacy for students in grades K-3;**

**2**

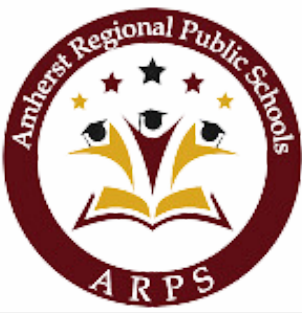
**Supplemental instruction and support in math and literacy through the after-school elementary Achievement Academy;**

**3**

**Supplemental instruction in literacy through the district's elementary Summer Achievement Academy;**

**4**

**Supplementary instruction in mathematics and reading in grades 7-8.**



## HOW WILL I BE NOTIFIED IF MY CHILD IS TO RECEIVE TITLE I SERVICES?

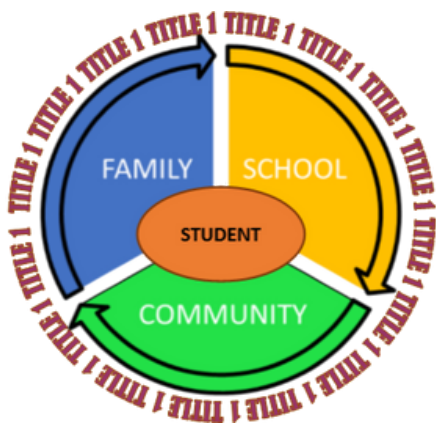
Parents will be notified by letter from the Title I educator prior to the child's enrollment into the program. In some cases, the Title I Intervention educator may also contact families by phone.

Families should always feel free to contact the classroom teacher, Title I Intervention Educator, or the Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment if they have any questions about the need for these services.

## HOW WILL I BE INFORMED OF MY CHILD'S PROGRESS?

Title I Intervention Progress Reports are issued at the same time as your child's regular report card (February, June). To ensure families stay informed about their child's reading progress across the year, bimonthly progress updates are also provided in a variety of forms that may include emailed updates, phone calls, scheduled meeting times, or other Title I educator outreach. Additionally, it is likely that your child's Title I educator will be available for K-3 family/caregiver conferences in the Fall and Spring.





## HOW ARE TITLE I SERVICES PROVIDED?

In some cases, the Title I Intervention Educator may go into your child's classroom and provide extra support to small groups of children in class. In other cases, the Title I Intervention Educator may take small groups of students out of their regular classroom to work in a smaller, quiet classroom in the school. In any case, Title I Intervention Educators and Classroom Teachers work closely together to provide the best possible supplemental support for each individual student.

## HOW ARE STUDENTS SELECTED TO RECEIVE TITLE I SERVICES?

Because Amherst's schools receive "Targeted" Title I funding, there is an eligibility process that must be followed to determine which students can receive services under the Title I Program. A team made up of Title I educators and administrators in each school review multiple criteria on each student who may benefit from these services. The criteria include Universal Screener assessments, other diagnostic assessments, recommendations from classroom teachers, and in-class achievement. The students with the greatest academic needs receive priority for Title I services.



# Family Involvement

Families are the first and most important teachers in their children's lives. As such, it is important that families are involved in all aspects of their children's education. At a minimum, it is crucial that families make a space for their children to read and complete other homework at home every day. Ideally, an adult will read with the child daily and discuss what they are reading. Your child's teachers will send home reading material often. In addition, it will benefit your child if you help your child make additional reading selections. You are welcome to request books from your school's library for your child. The Jones, Munson, and North Amherst Libraries, in our town, all have vibrant children's sections for you to borrow books as well.

# TITLE I EVENTS FOR FAMILIES

## Title I School Events

The elementary schools hold Literacy Night and Math Night events for families, as well as Open Houses and other Title I family events. In the 2025-2026 school year, Open Houses will host in-person attendance. Please be on the lookout for announcements about these events. They are great opportunities to meet the Title I teachers and learn about additional resources for helping your children achieve stronger academic skills.

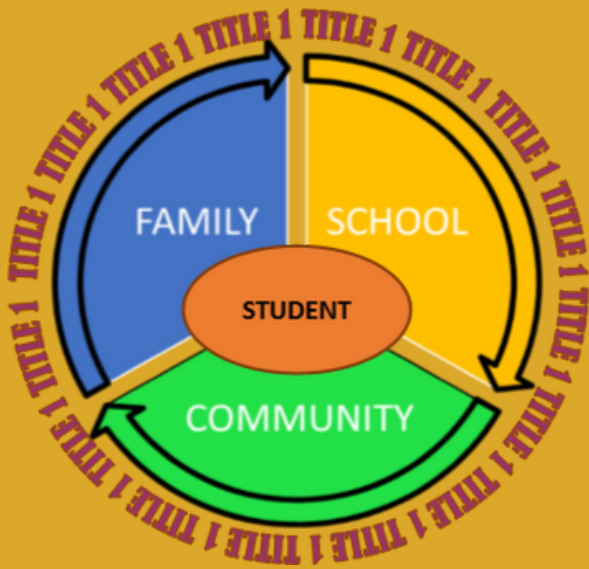
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## Title I Family Annual Meeting

The schools also hold annual family meetings for our Title I Program. This is a time for parents/guardians to learn more about the Title I programming at their child's school, provide feedback to the school district on the Title I Program for its annual Needs Assessment, and to find out about additional ways that you can support your child's literacy development. Often, these meetings are held in coordination with the Open House night in the Fall. In addition to Open House events for your child's classroom, you can meet Title I teachers and preview teaching and learning resources that support your child's growing skills, and ask questions about Title I programming in your child's school.





# A PARENT'S RIGHT TO KNOW

Parents may request, and the district will provide in a timely fashion, information regarding the professional qualifications of their children's teachers, as well as any other service provider. Please contact your school Principal or the Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Administration Officer for this information.

## **CONTACT US:**



413-362-1824



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