

Westerly Hills Academy Title 1 Parent Meeting and Curriculum Night



**WESTERLY
HILLS
Academy**

September 25, 2025



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Academy**

Meet the Principal Mrs. Kiesha Pride



Meet the Principal Mrs. Kiesha Pride

I was born and raised in Lake Lure, North Carolina. I am happily married to my college sweetheart (30 years and counting...) and I am the proud mother of one son. I ABSOLUTELY LOVE spending time with my family, friends, and traveling.

I attended UNC Charlotte and Gardner-Webb University. However, I am a SELF PROCLAIMED “honorary” NC A&T State University Aggie...AGGIE PRIDE!!!

I have been in education for 26 years. I have served both elementary and middle grade teachers and scholars for MANY years.

I am super excited to lead and serve with each and every one of you this year!



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



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September 25, 2025



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Meeting Overview



- ❑ **What is a Title I school and what it means to be a Title I school**
- ❑ **Required Funds Set-Aside for parent and family engagement**
- ❑ **The CMS Parent and Family Engagement Policy**
- ❑ **School Parent and Family Engagement Policy**
- ❑ **School Improvement Plan (SIP) in NC Star**
- ❑ **School-Parent Compact**
- ❑ **How to request the qualifications of my child's teacher(s)**

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**



What is a Title 1

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 1 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?

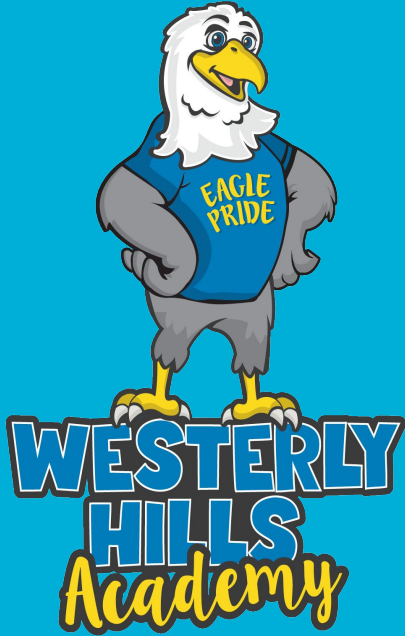
- **Behavior Modification Technician**
- **Multi-Classroom Teacher Leaders**
- **Interventionist**
- **Parent Involvement Activities**
- **Tutoring Services (Heart Math)**
- **Supplies and materials (books, technology)**
- **Instructional Supplies**



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**

Parent and Family Engagement Allocation



- **Quarterly Parental Involvement Events**
- **Parent Center Resources**
- **Home/School Communication Tools**
- **Data Academic Reflection Meetings**

School Improvement Team (SIT)

October 9th
November 6th
December 4th
January 8th
February 5th
March 5th
April 2nd
May 7th



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Westerly Hills (CMS) Goals

- The percent of Kindergarten through 2nd grade students scoring at or above benchmark in early literacy as measured by DIBELS and iReady will increase from 58% in SY 2024-25 to 67% in SY2025-26.



- **3rd-5th ELA: The percent of students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on reading End of Grade assessments in grades 3-5 will increase from 18.7% in SY 2024-25 to 26.6% in SY 2025-26.**

Westerly Hills (CMS) Goals

- By June 10, 2026, Westerly Hills Academy will show a decrease in incidents of physical/verbal aggression by 50% (470 to 235) as evidenced by decrease in behavioral incidents within Educators Handbook and Navigator 2025-2026 school year.



- By June 10, 2026, Westerly Hills Academy will reduce chronic absenteeism by 4.2% (points) schoolwide as evidenced by an increase in student attendance rate from 90.8% to 95% 2025-2026 school year.

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?

- **Please sign up to be apart of our School Improvement Team. We are also looking for volunteers to help start our Parent Teacher Association**



How can I volunteer to assist my student with school needs?

- **The School Improvement Team/School Leadership Team meets every 1st Thursday of the month. Parent can attend in-person or through Teams.**
- **Volunteers opportunities are available. Please register as a volunteer through CMS website. <https://www.cmsvolunteers.com/>**
- **Help with the Eagle Store**
- **Organize the Media Center**
- **Support the Scholastic Book Fairs**
- **Chaperone field trips**
- **Dads on Duty initiative**
- **Community Block Party**



Title I parents and families have the right to request the qualifications of their child's teachers.

- **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**
- **How are you notified of this right and what is the process for making a request?**
 - **Contact Ms.Scott - Dean of Students
980-343-6021
catina.scott@cms.k12.nc.us**
- **Request should be completed within 30 days.**



Proud Points

- Westerly Hills consistently builds a culture of caring, support, and focus on academic growth.
- Westerly Hills has strong community partnerships with the community and faith-based organization.
- They provide any needed support for our students and staff!
- Westerly Hills maintains a high culture of care with staff to ensure positive school morale.
- Westerly Hills has established and fostered community friendships and partnerships with West Blvd Ministries, First Presbyterian Church, Aggie Men, CMPD, Steel-Fab Inc, Capturing Kids' Heart, American Airlines, Charlotte Playground Build, and JusDue to support the school mission and vision.



Celebrations!

!



Westerly Hills Academy

EXCEEDED GROWTH

In the 2024-25, 2023-24, 2022-23, and 2021-22
school year



Westerly Hills Academy

**Exceeded
SOFG**

Goal 2 Target

In the 2024-25 school year



Westerly Hills Academy

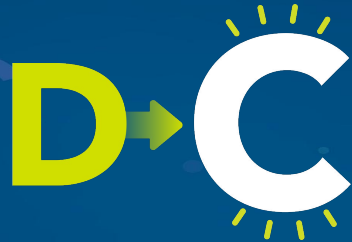


Ranked #3 in CMS
for Improvement in
Math (Grades 3-8)

2024-25



Westerly Hills Academy



Improved Performance
2024-25



Westerly Hills Academy

C

School Performance Grade 2024-25



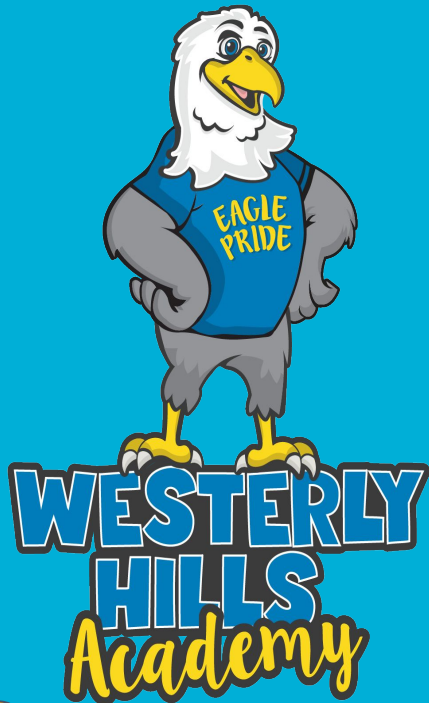
It takes a Village and a Partnership

Our goal for this year is to continue to EXCEED growth and INCREASE our school's letter grade. However, that takes a VILLAGE and a PARTNERSHIP. We NEED our scholars at school EVERY day ON TIME and ALL day!!!! We also need our families to make sure scholars are continuing their learning at home. Less Tik Tok/Snapchat, and more iReady!!!!

Recipe for Success



Westerly Hills Title IX Support



**Mrs. Kiesha Pride, Principal
Title IX Decision Maker**

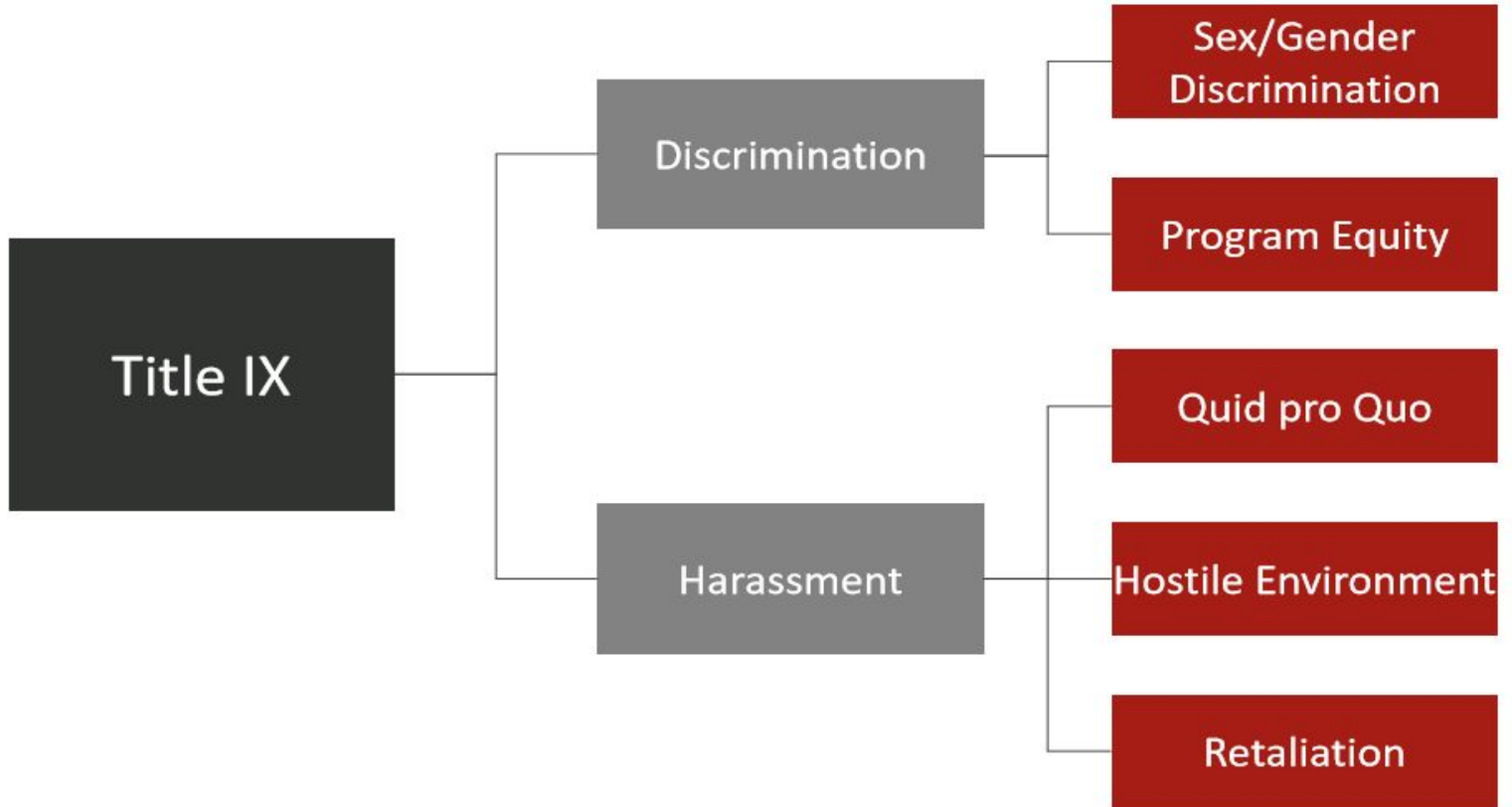
- **(Assistant Principal) - Investigator**
- **Ms. Scott (Dean of Students) - Investigator**
- **Mr. Jordan (BMT) - Investigator/Support**
- **Ms. McEachern (Social Worker) - Support**
- **(Counselor) - Support**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

- **"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."**



Title IX Protections Under the Law



Title IX Update

- **All CMS Elementary Schools are Required to teach Title IX lessons around Bullying and Harassment.**
- **Westerly Hills taught the lessons the week of September 10**
- **SEL Lessons daily**
- **Say Something (4th and 5th)**



Title IX Lesson

Outcomes

- **Students will be able to understand what bullying and harassment behavior is and identify when it happens.**
- **Students will be able to understand the consequences associated with bullying and harassment behaviors.**
- **Students will be provided with clear steps to take if they or others are experiencing bullying or harassment (notification and reporting).**



Title IX Lesson

Outcomes

- **Students will be encouraged to report to trusted adults any bullying or harassment when it occurs.**
- **Students will be able to identify and utilize safe strategies for bystander intervention of bullying or harassment.**



**Thank you for being
here!**



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**Next, you will proceed to
your scholar's class for
Curriculum Night
presentations.**



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