

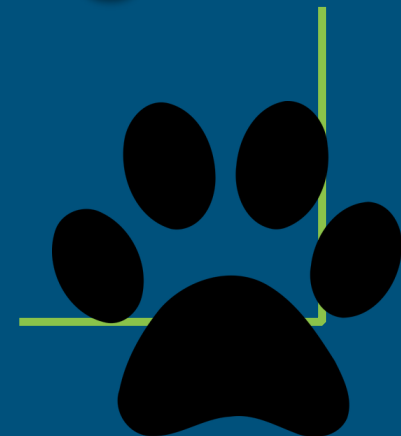
Watt Hardison Elementary

Annual Title I & Family Engagement Meeting

August 20th, 2026

Phyllis Gilman, principal

Kelsey Freeman Reading Specialist



Meeting Objectives

- Inform you of your school's participation in Title I
- Share information about Title I
- Explain your rights as parents and family members to be involved.

What is a Title I school?

Title I schools receive extra funding (Title I dollars) from the federal government. These dollars are used to:

- Identify students experiencing academic difficulties and provide assistance to help these students
- Purchase additional staff, programs, materials, and/or supplies
- Conduct parent and family engagement meetings, trainings, events, and/or activities.

How do We Become A Title I School?

By completing the free and reduced lunch application, YOU are helping WHE stay a Title I school.

BUT WE HAVE FREE LUNCH THIS YEAR!

- All information is kept confidential!
- If you do qualify, you don't have to accept assistance!
- Field trips and lunches are covered with Title I funds!

School Lunch QR Code

Scan to fill out the info



What can Title I funds be used for?

Your school may use Title I funds for :

Additional teachers and paraprofessionals

- Mrs. Lathan, Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. White, Mrs. Renfro

- Additional training for school staff
 - Conferences
 - Book Studies
 - Trainings
- Before and/or after school programs
 - Annual Meeting /Ice Cream Social
 - Reading Under the Stars
 - One Book Blitz After School PArty
 - Silly Goose Event and Book Swap
- Parent and family engagement activities
 - Reading Log Challenges during the breaks
- A variety of supplemental teaching materials, equipment, and technology
 - Reading Eggs
 - Study Island
 - iPads
 - IXL
 - Generation Genius
 - Fun-in-Focus RTI
 - Materials
 - Leveled Readers
 - MathSeeds
 - Apple TVs
 - TV Screens
 - Classroom Libraries

What is the SIP?

The SIP is the **S**chool **I**mprovement **P**lan. It includes:

- The school planning team, and the involvement of each member
- A detailed summary of the prior year's academic and non-academic data
- Goals, strategies, and action steps to help address the academic and non-academic needs of students
- Teacher and staff professional development needs
- Budgets and the coordination of resources

What are our schoolwide program goals?

Increase the academic performance of students in reading and math.

Continue developing a culture and climate in which every student feels loved and successful.

What are my rights?

As a family member, you have the right to:

- Share feedback to help make decisions WHE and for Sumner County
- Receive information regarding your child's progress in reading/language arts, writing, mathematics, and science
- Request and receive information on the faculty and staff working with your child
- Request opportunities for regular meetings to provide feedback to the school

How is parent and family engagement funded?

- Any district with a Title I allocation exceeding \$500,000 is required by law to set aside 1% of its Title I allocation for parent and family engagement.
- Of that 1%, 10% may be reserved at the district for system-wide initiatives related to parent and family engagement. The remaining 90% must be allocated to all Title I schools in the district.
- You, as Title I parents and family members, have the right to be involved in how this money is spent.

What is a Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

These plans address how the district and school will implement the parent and family engagement requirements of ESSA. Components should include:

- how parents and families can be involved in decision-making and activities
- how parent and family engagement funds are being used
- how information and training will be provided to families
- how the school will build capacity in families and staff for strong parent and family engagement.

You, as a Title I parent or family member, have the right to be involved in the development of these plans.

Visit whe.sumnerschools.org to see the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

What is a Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

“Through effective communication with parents, teachers can have the greatest impact on their day-to-day success with students. With parents on their side, teachers can more effectively manage most academic and behavioral issues that arise. **When the most important adults in a child’s life are working together, students benefit enormously.**”

-Lee and Marleen Canter

Source: Parents On Your Side: A Teacher’s Guide to Creating Positive Relationship with Parents



What is a School-Parent Compact?

The compact must describe how the school will:

- provide high-quality curriculum and instruction
- hold parent-teacher conferences, annually in elementary schools;
- provide parents with reports on their child's progress
- provide parents reasonable access to staff
- provide parents opportunities to volunteer
- ensure regular two-way meaningful communication between family members and staff, in a language family members can understand

You, as a Title I parent or family member, have the right to be involved in the development of the compact.

You will receive a copy of the School-Parent Compact tonight. There are always extra copies in the office.

Watt Hardison Elementary

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

2026-2027



WHAT IS A SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT?

A school-parent compact is an agreement the families, students, and teachers develop together. It explains how families and teachers will work together to make sure all students reach grade level standards.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

This compact was developed in collaboration with the following representation

- School Leadership
- Families
- Community Partners

WHE MISSION

Watt Hardison commits to support lifelong learners and leaders through collaborative, quality instruction and building relationships to empower students to become respectful, responsible, and successful students.

COMMUNICATION WITH FAMILIES & BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

The following are a few of the ways in which we will communicate with our families and build partnerships:

- Daily Parent Communication Folders
- Sumner Chat App
- WHE Social Media (Facebook)
- School Website
- Skyward Portal for Current Grade Information
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Newsletters
- Family Engagement Nights (Reading Under the Stars, Empowerment Night, One Book Blitz, Book Drive-Thru, Reading Scavenger Hunts)





WHE is a Title I school and receives federal funding. This funding provides a reading specialist, interventionists, and a highly trained paraprofessionals who provide extra academic support in reading and math. It also provides technology, books, and other hands on resources. The funds are used to provide professional learning experiences for teachers, and to host free, family events. The goal of these fun and engaging events is to empower our families and develop a positive community culture.

Phyllis Gilman, Principal
Kelsey Freeman, Title I Reading Specialist
www.whe.sumnerschools.org
615-325-3233

What curriculum does our school use?

The Tennessee Academic Standards provide a common set of expectations for what students will know and be able to do at the end of a grade for each subject area.

- Reading: Foundations, Geodes, Wit & Wisdom
- Math: Eureka
- Science: Elevate Science

What tests will my child be taking?

Your child will take assessments that are included in the curriculum, as well as:

- Aimesweb universal screener, up to three times a year (K-5)
- Sumner County Benchmarks, once a year (3-5)
- TN Ready State Assessment, once a year (3-5)
- TN Ready (practice), once a year (2nd)

How can I be involved?

We need you! Research has proven that family engagement in education has more impact on student achievement than any other factor.

To get involved with

- **SIP** (School Improvement Plan)
- **Parent and Family Engagement Policy**
 - Posted on our website
- **School Parent Compact**
 - Posted on our website

Complete the Family engagement survey or reach out to....

Kelsey Freeman

(Title I Reading Specialist)

Phyllis Gilman

(Principal).

Who can I contact for help?

- For general questions, call the front office at:
615-325-3233
- **To reach your child's teacher**, call the front office or view our staff directory at: whe.sumnerschools.org
- **Use the Sumner Chat App**
- To contact the **Title Reading Department** or Mrs. Freeman, call the school or email kelsey.freeman@sumnerschools.org



Title I Family Interest Survey

2026-2027

HEY, TITLE I TEAM PARENTS!
YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT!

WE NEED YOUR INPUT
TO PLAN FUN ACTIVITIES!

Please share
your thoughts
with us! We
cannot wait to
make this our
best year yet!
- Mrs. Freeman



WHAT FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
DO YOU WANT?



YOUR SURVEY HELPS
ALL OUR STUDENTS!



WE APPRECIATE YOUR
FEEDBACK FOR...



SCAN THIS QR CODE TO FILL IT OUT!



SCAN & GIVE YOUR INPUT!



WE APPRECIATE YOUR FEEDBACK! THANK YOU!

Encuesta de Interés Familiar del Título I 2026-2027 ¡Necesitamos su opinión!





Title I Events this year



August

20th - 4:30-6pm
Annual
Meeting/ Ice
Cream Social

Eat Ice Cream, hang
with families, I do a
spiel.

October

5th-9th Fall Break
Reading Challenge
Reading Logs due:
October 14th

Reward Day:
October 16th

22nd - 4:30-6:30
Reading Under The
Stars.

November

23rd-27th
Thanksgiving
Reading
Challenge

Reading Logs due:
December 2nd

Reward Day:
December 4th

December

Dec. 21-Jan.5
Winter Reading
Challenge

Reading Logs due:
January 13th

Reward Day:
January 15th

January

Jan. 22nd
One Book Blitz
Reveal

26th 5-6
The One Book
Blitz
Afterschool
Party

March

March 11th
5-6:30
Silly Goose Event

March 22nd-25th
Spring Reading
Challenge

Reading Logs due:
March 30th

Reward Day:
April 2nd

All Reading Challenges reading logs and need to be turned in by the Wednesday we return from a break. The Reading Reward will be that Friday.