



2026–2027 Title I Annual Meeting





HAWTHORNE

October 15, 2026

Endless possibilities start with



OUR MISSION

To create an innovative, inclusive, student-centered environment that supports the development of independent learners.

OUR VISION

To lead the community in educational excellence, inspiring intellectual curiosity, creativity, and achievement so that all students reach their full potential.

2024 – 2029 DISTRICT GOALS

-  Improve Early Literacy in Grades K – 2
-  Improve Literacy Skills in Grades 3 – 8
-  Strengthen Math Performance in Math 1
-  Post-Grad Readiness

CORE BELIEFS

Public education is essential to democracy and necessary for economic opportunity, mobility and the broader public good.

We are responsible for building and maintaining a high performing school district.

Each student is uniquely capable and deserves an engaging, relevant, and challenging educational experience.

Our principals and teachers make the critical difference in student achievement and building a positive school community.

The school system, families, and communities are necessary partners in ensuring the academic, social, emotional and behavioral success of students.

GUARDRAILS



Equity over Equality:
Reducing Achievement Gaps



Safety & Security



Attending to the Whole Child:
Wellbeing & Engagement



Staffing:
High Quality Teachers

FOUR PILLARS OF EXCELLENCE



Academic Excellence



People Excellence



Operational Excellence



Engagement Excellence

OUR COMMITMENT TO DELIVER **EXCELLENCE** WITHOUT EXCEPTION



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.



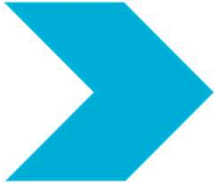
What does it mean to be a Title I School?

- 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 Assistant*
- *Parent Involvement*
- *Professional Development for staff*
- *Substitutes for staff professional development*
- *Tutoring*
- *Supplies and materials*



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

- *Parent Engagement Events*
- *Incentives*

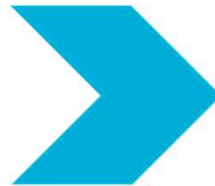


What is the CMS Parent and Family Engagement Policy?



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

Parents of students at Title I schools have the right to be engaged in the development of this plan

Access the SIP: <https://www.indistar.org>

User Name: guestS6832

Password: guestS6832



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



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

Website: <http://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/hawthorneae/pages/default.aspx>

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 Us

We are here to help!

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Jennifer H. Clark
Principal

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jenniferh.clark@cms.k12.nc.us

Phone Number

980.343.6011



CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS

Volunteer Opportunities

Leadership & Governance

- Join parent leadership groups such as PTA, PTSA, or booster clubs
- Become a member of the School Improvement Team

School Support

- Tutor students and assist with class parties
- Support Teacher appreciation activities
- Volunteer to contact other families

Events & Connection

- Attend academic events occurring at your child's school
- Participate in school activities
- Attend parent conferences

Ready to make a difference?

Please call **980.343.6011** or email meredithe.fox@cms.k12.nc.us to learn about opportunities



Thank you for being here!

School Contact Information

Principal

Jennifer H. Clark

Title I Coordinator

Genie Wilson

School Process Manager

Jennifer H. Clark

Family Advocate

Maribel Rivera

Social Worker

Howard Estelle, IV



Endless possibilities START WITH CMS!

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