

Welcome to our Family Night & Title I Annual Meeting!

Pinewood Elementary School
September 15th, 2026
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Welcome...

Agenda:

- Introductions
- Celebrations
- Title I Program Overview
- Our Title I Plan for 2026-2027
- Family Engagement
- Questions and Closing

Thank you to our PTO - DonutNV Food Truck will be here until 7:30!

Introductions

- Administration
 - Principal: Mrs. Tessnear
 - Assistant Principal: Ms. Adams
- Counselor: Mrs. Busch
- Grade Level Teams & Specials
- Need a translator? We have two staff who can speak Spanish and can help you.
- *¿Necesitas un traductor? Dos personas aquí hablan español y pueden ayudarle - Sra. Fremgen y Sra. Zapata.*
- *Yo hablo un poquito de español y puedo ayudarle a encontrarlos.*

Celebrations!

- I would like to take a moment to share about our academic achievement last year:
- Our school improved an entire letter grade from a C to a B!
- Facts about our growth:
 - 5 points in one year!
 - From 69% to 74%!
 - Students exceeded growth!
 - All subgroups met growth!

Title I Program Overview

- Title I is a federally funded program.
- It provides funding for low income schools to help students who are behind academically or at risk of falling behind to meet our state's standards.
- Schools qualify for Title I funds based on the school's percentage of free lunch recipients.

Title I Program Overview

Our school participates in a Title I Schoolwide Program.

- Schoolwide programs have flexibility in using their Title I funds in order to enhance instruction.
- Schoolwide programs must conduct a comprehensive needs assessment, identify and commit to specific goals and strategies that address those needs, create a comprehensive plan, and conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of the program.

Our Title I Plan for 2026-2027

Our School's Title I Plan for 2026-2027 consist of the following:

- 1. An Additional 5th Grade Teacher**
 - Reduces class sizes
 - Teachers can better monitor student progress, address learning gaps, and provide individualized instruction
- 2. A Parent Involvement Specialist**
 - Creates, copies, and sends flyers home with students
 - Supports social media communication and posting
 - Helps plan family night events
- 3. Planning Days for Teachers**
 - Teachers can analyze data and implement vertical planning with other grade levels
- 4. More Books in Classrooms**
 - “Decodable” books in K-2 classes for small groups
 - More books in students’ hands!

Parent and Family Engagement

Our school Family Engagement allotment

- Approximately \$2,500

We will use this money for:

- Books for students
- Supplies for events
- Snacks for future events
- Needed student supplies

More information coming soon on our
“One Book, One School” initiative!

Parent and Family Engagement

The law states that caregivers in Title I schools have the right to:

- be a part of developing the school family engagement plan and policy.
- be involved in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the family engagement program in their school.
- receive materials and training to foster greater family engagement.
- Please let us know if you are interested in serving on any of our school committees!

Parent and Family Engagement

The law states that caregivers in Title I schools have the right to:

- jointly develop, with school staff, a school-parent learning compact.

Please let us know if you are interested in serving on any of our school committees, including:

- The PTO (Parent Teacher Organization)
- The SIT (School Improvement Team) (We have a parent representative now, but will need a new one next year!)
- The Family Success Committee

Learning Compact



Title I School Learning Compact This Gaston County School 2025-2026

The Gaston County Board of Education has adopted policies requiring students to meet local Board of Education standards for promotion in grades K-8. Similar standards must be met in order for students in grades 9-12 to receive high school course credit. The Board believes that learning can take place best when there is shared effort, interest, and motivation by students, parents, and staff.

THIS SCHOOL, as part of Gaston County Schools, is specifically committed to _____'s success in school and promises to work together to promote his or her achievement. Below outlines the commitment from each stakeholder involved in _____'s success this school year.

As a student at This School, I will...

- demonstrate a serious attitude toward learning
- respect myself and the rights of others
- attend school regularly and be on time
- follow the Code of Student Conduct

Student Signature _____ Date _____

As a parent/guardian of _____ at This School, I will...

- provide ample, quiet study time at home and encourage good study habits and regular school attendance
- make sure my child is well-rested, at school on time, and present for the entire instructional day
- support the school staff in their efforts to promote appropriate behavior
- encourage my child to read more and monitor my child's homework

I understand that if state and local standards are not met, my child may be retained. I understand I may request a formal review process of retention based on failure to meet state standards, by contacting the principal in writing.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

As a classroom teacher at This School, I will...

- explain my expectations, instructional goals, and grading system to the student and parent
- teach the North Carolina Standard Course of Study
- provide a climate in my classroom that is conducive to learning
- communicate with parents through conferences, progress reports, report cards, and by telephone

Homeroom Teacher Signature _____ Date _____

As the principal at This School, I will...

- provide a safe and orderly learning environment for students and staff
- establish myself as the instructional leader in my school
- support teachers in their efforts to teach all students
- set high expectations for students and staff

Principal's Signature _____ Date _____

Family engagement is essential as we work to give your child the best educational experiences possible.



The Learning Compact for Title I Schools outlines the commitments made by the students, guardians, teachers and principals in order to create a positive learning environment.

WE ARE Gaston County Schools



Parent and Family Engagement

The law states that caregivers in Title I schools have the right to:

- know the qualifications of their child's teacher and paraprofessional (teacher assistant)
- If a child is being taught by someone (such as a substitute teacher) who does not have the state licensure and certification qualifications of a classroom teacher, and will be in that position for 4 or more weeks, parents will be notified.

Parent and Family Engagement

The district and school level family engagement policies are available to you in your school packet received at the beginning of the year and on our school website. Please provide us with your feedback on these policies anytime. Your thoughts are valuable to us!

Targeted Support and Improvement

Like many schools, we are designated as a **Title I Targeted Support School** for the 2026-2027 school year.

- We were identified as a Targeted Support School due to a gap in proficiency scores between the highest achieving and lowest achieving subgroups of students over a number of years.

Targeted Support School

Our learning goals this year:

- Reading Proficiency: 67% (last year's target: 65%)
- Math Proficiency: 72% (last year's target: 70%)
- Science Proficiency: 80% proficiency (last year: 77.9%)

Targeted Support School

We will reach these goals by implementing:

- Strategy 1: Strong teacher planning (focused on the standards students need to learn for each subject in each grade level)
- Strategy 2: Data-driven instruction (teachers collecting and analyzing data daily to determine and address gaps in student learning quickly)
- Strategy 3: Focus on literacy (more books in students' hands, classroom libraries in each classroom, One Book One School initiative)
- Our teachers - and students - are already working hard on these initiatives! We can't wait to see our students achieve their goals this year!

Further Information

For further information on Title I, you may visit the following websites or contact the Federal Programs Director, Dr. Cynthia Reynolds at her email: cdreynolds@gaston.k12.nc.us

- <http://www.gaston.k12.nc.us/parents/Pages/TitleI.aspx>
- <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/federalprograms/titleI/>
- This presentation will be emailed in this week's family newsletter.

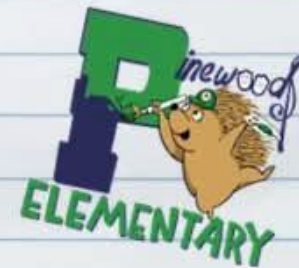
Next Steps Tonight!

- 6:10-6:40: Grade-Level Presentation Session 1
- 6:50-7:20: Grade-Level Presentation Session 2
- Please go to your student's grade level area. If you have 2 students, choose which to go to first.
- Directional signs are on boards throughout the building, and staff are on hand to assist you!
- Presentations will begin promptly and end promptly. Please stay in your assigned session until the announcement is made to switch sessions!
- If you have questions for me, I will stay here for a few minutes. You can also ask any staff member to get me.
- Thank you & enjoy!

COME TO OUR FAMILY NIGHT!



TUESDAY, SEPT. 15TH
5:30-7:30 P.M.



Evening Agenda:

5:15: Doors Open
5:30-6:00: Title 1 Info in Gym
6:10-6:40: Grade-Level
Presentation (time slot 1)
6:50-7:20: Grade-Level
Presentation (time slot 2)
7:30: End of Event

Grade Level Focus Areas:

Kindergarten: NC ELI assessment
1st Grade: mCLASS assessments
2nd Grade: Standards-Based Grading
3rd Grade: Read to Achieve
4th Grade: Understanding Artifacts
for Standards-Based Grading
5th Grade: Science Fair & Field Trips