2026-2027 ANNUAL TITLE I & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT MEETING

Westmoreland Elementary School

August 2026

Dr. David E. Stafford

WHY ARE WE HERE?

- The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that each Title I school hold an annual meeting of Title I families in order to:
  - inform you of your school's participation in Title I,
  - explain the requirements of Title I, and
  - explain your rights as parents and family members to be involved.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

- What is a Title I school?
- Who is on the Title 1 staff?
- What are my rights?
- What can Title I funds be used for?
- How does our school use Title I funds?
- What is the SIP?
- What are our schoolwide program goals?
- How is parent and family engagement funded?
- What is the Parent and Family Engagement Policy?
- What is the School-Parent Compact?
- What curriculum does our school use?
- How can you be involved?
- Who can I contact for help?

WHO IS ON THE TITLE 1 STAFF?

- Title 1 Teachers
  - Chandra Wilkerson
  - Kacie Baldwin

- Title 1 Paraprofessionals
  - Amy Farris
  - Heather Leath
  - Joy Wheeley

WHAT IS A TITLE I SCHOOL?

- Title I was passed in 1965 under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). It is the largest federal assistance program for our nation's schools.
- 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;
  - pay for additional staff, programs, materials, and/or supplies; and
  - conduct parent and family engagement meetings, trainings, events, and/or activities.

WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS?

- The families and parents of Title I students have a right, by law, to:
  - be involved in decisions made at both the school and district level;
  - be provided with information on your child's level of achievement
  - request and receive information on the qualifications of your child's teacher and paraprofessionals who are working with your child and
  - request opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of your child. The school is required to respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

WHAT CAN TITLE I FUNDS BE USED FOR?

- In general, Title I funds may be used for:
  - Reading Specialists and paraprofessionals,
  - additional training for school staff,
  - extra time for instruction (before and/or after school programs),
  - parent and family engagement activities, and/or
  - a variety of supplemental teaching materials, equipment, and technology.

HOW DOES OUR SCHOOL USE TITLE I FUNDS?

- In 2026-2027, our school received Title I funding.
- We developed a **Schoolwide Program**, which means we plan to spend our funds on the following:
    - Supplemental staff:
        - Two Title 1 Teachers and three paraprofessionals
    - Programs/Materials/Supplies:
        - Intervention Curriculum materials
        - Technology (iPads, document cameras, and projectors)

WHAT IS THE SIP?

- The SIP is the School Improvement Plan. It includes:
  - the identification of the school planning team and how they will be engaged in the planning process;
  - a needs assessment and summary of data;
  - prioritized goals, strategies, and action steps to help address the academic and non-academic needs of students;
  - teacher and staff professional development needs; and
  - budgets and the coordination of resources.
- The school must include family representatives on our school planning team.

WHAT ARE OUR SCHOOLWIDE PROGRAM GOALS?

- Literacy: Creating a solid Literacy Foundation beginning in Pre-1st
- Culture: Creating an educationally inclusive and supportive culture
- Attendance: Create an environment that encourages daily attendance

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 it's 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 FUNDED AT WES?

- In 2026-2027, we received parent and family engagement funding. We plan to use these funds for:
    - Parent and Family Engagement Meeting and Events (A few are listed below)
        - Kindergarten Empowerment Meetings
        - TNReady/Test Preparation
    - Materials/Supplies
        - Take-home books, Educational Activities

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; and
  - 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.

- The current school Parent and Family Engagement Policy can be found on our school website.

WHAT IS A SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT?

- A school-parent compact is a written commitment that outlines how the entire school community – teachers, families, and students will share the responsibility for improved academic achievement.
- 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; and
  - ensure regular two-way meaningful communication between family members and staff, to the extent practicable, 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.
- The current school-parent compact can be found on our school website

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.
- Tennessee's academic standards form the framework for everything taught at Westmoreland Elementary
- For more information about Tennessee's academic standards, see:
  https://www.tn.gov/education/districts/academic-standards.html

- Some of the curriculum WES currently uses is Wit and Wisdom for ELA and Eureka for math.

HOW CAN YOU 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 the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and/or the School Parent Compact, please contact:
  - Chandra Wilkerson (chandra.wilkerson@sumnerschools.org)
  - Kacie Baldwin (Kacie.baldwin@sumnerschools.org)

WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME?

- Encourage your child to attend school daily
- Read with your child daily and/or encourage them to read for 20 minutes a day
- Check grades on Skyward
- Keep communication open between you and your child's teacher via phone, email and Sumner Chat app
- Keep check on the the school's webpage for announcements and resources such as Parent Notifications and Complaint Procedures.
  - http://wes.sumnerschools.org

WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR HELP?

- WES Phone Number: 615-644-2340
  - The front office can answer your general questions.
  - For more specific questions, you can contact:
    - Dr. David E. Stafford, Principal
    - Alicia Perry, Assistant Principal
    - Marisa Whittemore, Counselor
    - Kacie Baldwin, Title I teacher
    - Chandra Wilkerson, Title I teacher
- To reach your child's teacher, call the front office or view our staff directory at: wes.sumnerschools.org

WE JUST WANT TO SAY…

THANK YOU!