

What is Federal Programs?

School: Buckeye Elementary
Rapides Parish School
Date: August 13, 2026

Principal: Jessica Alwell
District Title I Chairperson: Melissa Kreideweis

"Federal Programs" Formal Overview...



- Federal education programs in the United States refer to initiatives funded by the national government to supplement state and local education budgets, ensure equal access, and support low-income or disadvantaged students.
- While individual states carry the primary responsibility for running public schools, the federal government—mostly through the U.S. Department of Education — administers these targeted programs to improve overall educational quality. The primary federal education initiatives are divided across elementary/secondary education (K–12) and higher education (college).

"Federal Programs" interpretation for Buckeye Elementary...

While our school is mostly funded by local and state taxes, we also receive extra financial support from the federal government. This federal funding is specifically used to make sure every student gets an equal chance to succeed. It pays for valuable extras in our classrooms, like free tutoring, special education services, advanced technology, and specialized training for our teachers.



What is Title I?

Title I Chairperson: Melissa Kreideweis

What is the Title I program?



- Title I is a partnership between the federal government, the state educational agency and the local school district to assist meeting the educational needs of low-achieving students. It is the largest federal aid program for elementary and secondary schools.
- In order to qualify for Title I, a school's population is 40% or more of students living in poverty, regardless of the school configuration.
- The goal of Title I is to provide all children with a high-quality education and to help them meet state and federal standards.
- RPSB Title I provides for pre-K throughout the district, and also provides for students experiencing homelessness through the McKinney-Vento program.
- A very important part of Title I program is parental involvement.

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 funds are used:
  - to identify students experiencing academic difficulties and providing timely assistance to help these students meet the Louisiana's challenging content standards.
  - to purchase supplemental staff/programs/materials/supplies
  - to conduct parent and family engagement meetings/trainings/activities
- Being a Title I school also means parent and family involvement and knowing their rights under Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Who decides how Title I funds are used in the schools?



- Each school decides how Title I funds will be used in their school to improve education for all children.
- Site based leadership teams determine how Title I funds will be used to help support the school's identified needs. Parents can have input into these decisions.
- Data is reviewed to determine the greatest needs in a school and devise strategies to improve student achievement in the school through a schoolwide or school improvement plan.

Needs Assessment



Buckeye Elementary will use Title I funds allocated to the school to assist the in providing the necessary resources and support for students to reach their goals.

DIBELS EOY 25-26

Grade level	Well Below %	Below %	At/Above Benchmark %
K	8%	6%	86%
1	6%	9%	85%
2	6%	4%	90%
K-2	7%	7%	86%

iReady EOY 25-26

Grade Level	1 grade level below	Early on grade level %	Mid/Above grade level %
K	8%	15%	77%
1	11%	21%	68%
2	19%	21%	60%
K-2	13%	19%	68%

What is the 1% set-aside, and how are parents involved?



- Any LEA 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 LEA for system-wide initiatives related to parent and family engagement. The remaining 90% must be allocated to all Title I schools in the LEA. Therefore, each Title I school receives its portion of the 90% to implement school-level parent and family engagement with clear expectations and objectives for meaningful involvement.

What is the LEA Schoolwide Improvement Plan (SWP)?



- The LEA Title I SWP addresses how the LEA will use Title I funds throughout the school system . Topics include:
  - Student academic assessments
  - Additional assistance provided struggling students
  - Coordination and integration of federal funds and programs
  - School programs including Migrant, Pre-School, EL, and Homeless, as applicable.
  - Parent and Family Engagement Strategies, which is included in the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

What is a SWP?



- The Schoolwide Improvement Plan (SWP) is a school improvement plan that helps schools plan to improve and meet state academic standards. The SWP process includes:
  - A Needs Assessment and Summary of Data
  - Goals and Strategies to Address Academic Needs of Students
  - Professional Development Needs
  - Coordination of Resources/Comprehensive Budget
  - The School's Parent and Family Engagement Policy
- The SWP is used by all Title I schools in Rapides Parish, and the plan should be implemented, monitored, and revised regularly as needed, but SWP meetings are held three times per year: beginning, middle, and end. Get involved!

What is Parent and Family Engagement Plan?



- This plan addresses how the LEA will implement the parent and family engagement requirements of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). It includes...
  - The LEA's expectations for parents and families
  - How the LEA will involve parents in decision-making
  - How the LEA will work to build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to improve student academic achievement
- These policies describe the means for carrying out the activities required by ESSA to involve families in the academic achievement of their students.

What are the benefits of family engagement?



<u>For students:</u>

- Higher grades and test scores
- Better attendance

<u>For Parents and Families:</u>

- More confidence and trust in the school
- Creates a home environment that encourages learning
- Encourages families to form stronger relationships with teachers and other families

<u>For Schools and Teachers:</u>

- Improved teacher and staff morale
- More support from families and improved relationships within the community
- Higher student achievement

What is the School-Parent Compact?



- The compact is a commitment from the school, the parent, and the student to share in the responsibility for improved academic achievement.
- The Compact has three sections- parent section, student section, and school section.
- What it includes: A description of how the school, parents, and students will work together to improve academic achievement.

What is my role as a parent in supporting my child's success?



- Parents are an important part of the Title I team and are partners with the school in helping all students achieve. Title I parents have certain rights. As the parent of a child in a Title I school, you have the right to:
- Request the progress reports on your child and school
- Request information about the professional qualifications of your child's teacher(s) including the degrees and certifications held, and whether the teacher is certified in their respective area of instruction
- Help to decide if Title I is meeting your child's needs, and offer suggestions for improvement
- Know if your child has been assigned, or taught by a teacher that is not highly qualified for at least four consecutive weeks
- Help develop your school's plan for how parents and schools can work together

What is the Title II program?



- Title II provides funding to help teachers and school leaders improve their skills so they can better support student learning.
- It also helps ensure all students have access to effective educators.

What is Title III?



Legal Framework

Title III is a part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA).

It was later amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA).

Core Purpose

Helps English learners (ELs) attain English language proficiency.

Enables students to successfully meet the same challenging state academic standards.

Funding Flow

Federal funding assists State (SEAs) and Local (LEAs) education agencies through grant programs.

Subgrants are also offered to other eligible educational entities.

Title III - School Sites



ESL Itinerant Teachers: Emily Wilkins & Sam West

school

Cherokee ES

- Sarah Toma
- Nyla Dickson

menu_book

J. B. Nachman ES

- Kimberly Roberts
- Tammy Dean

workspace_premium

J. I. Barron ES

- Mitzi Gongre
- Jennifer Woodruff

groups

Forest Hill JH

- Cherie Grayson
- Chelsea Lorenzo
- Paula Mendez
- Leslie Winners

ESL Center Schools



school

Brame MS

- Katherine Cataldie
- Frances Clark

menu_book

Glenmora HS

- Mandy Glenn
- Morgan James
- Bridgete Golmon

workspace_premium

Rapides HS

- Michael Roy

gavel

ASH

- Marquetta Adkins

translate

Oak Hill HS

- Elliot Maricle

class

Plainview HS

- Elliot Maricle

What Is The Definition Of An English Learner (EL)?



- is aged 3 through 21
- is enrolled or preparing to enroll in an elementary school or secondary school
- meets one of the following criteria
  1. was not born in the United States, or whose native language is a language other than English;
  2. is a Native American or Alaska Native, or a native resident of the outlying areas; and comes from an environment where a language other than English has had a significant impact on the individual's level of English language proficiency (ELP); or
  3. is migratory, whose native language is a language other than English, and who comes from an environment where a language other than English is dominant
- has difficulties in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language, that may be sufficient to deny the individual
  1. the ability to meet the challenging state academic standards;
  2. the ability to successfully achieve in classrooms where the language of instruction is English; or
  3. the opportunity to participate fully in society.

What is Title I, Part C / Migrant Education Program (MEP)?



account_balance

Federal Oversight

Funded under Title I, Part C of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and managed via the U.S. Department of Education Office of Migrant Education.

map

State & Local

Administered at the state level through the Louisiana Migrant Education Program and implemented locally by the RPSD.

Contact: jennifer.scott@rpsb.us

track_changes

Our Purpose

Serves students aged 3-21 enrolled or preparing to enroll in school who:

- Meet one of the following:
  - Born outside U.S. or non-English native;
  - Native American with English impact; or
  - Migratory with dominant non-English.
- Have English difficulties that limit success or full participation in society.

What is Title IV?



Funding that enhances/enriches the opportunities students have.

- The district is set to work on enhancing Well Rounded Programs by offering after-school programs such as archery and fitness teams as well as STEAM programs. Some STEAM enrichments are in:
  - Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Math
- In addition to STEAM materials and supplies, Schools can also submit proposals for band and/choir instruments, books for book clubs, and archery supplies.
- Inner Orbit is purchased district wide from Title IV to support the curriculum in our science classrooms.
- The Mastery Prep program for high school students gives students the opportunity to enhance their ACT and WorkKeys skills. Strong ACT and WorkKeys scores provides students opportunities beyond High School.
- Title IV funds provide support to school with funding for Truancy Case Workers.

Connecting to Buckeye Elementary Parents



We are committed to providing families with meaningful, two-way communication about Buckeye Elementary's plan and your child's academic progress throughout the year!

Here are ways we can partner to meet our plan's goals:

- Communicate with us: Contact your child's teacher or principal with questions about your child's progress, learning needs, or school events/programs through teacher website, school media accounts, etc.
- Support learning at home: Parent involvement at the elementary, middle and high school takes many forms. Whether it's checking homework, talking more about reading progress for DIBELS, college and career choices, attending Open House or volunteering for PTO and booster clubs, your engagement makes a difference! We are #better together.

By knowing what's happening in the classroom and on campus, you can help your student to focus on coursework and school activities to ensure a solid education progressing all the way to college and career readiness.

Thank you for your time. We need your feedback. Please answer these few short questions for you. Point your phone to scan the QR code on the right or type in the link below the QR code. Your response helps to secure federal funding!



https://forms.gle/tmdXDsRevbw1mxGz5

AT-A-GLANCE
FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Federal funding plays a vital role in supporting our students, teachers, and schools. Each Title program is designed to remove barriers and expand opportunities so every student can succeed. Please take a moment to review how these funds are put to work across our district, then let your voice be heard by completing the survey below. Your input helps shape how we prioritize these resources for the coming year.

TITLE I

All of our schools benefit from Title I, funding that provides additional funding to **expand learning resources and support every student's academic success.** The goal of this fund is to help all students meet state academic standards.

TITLE II

Title II provides funding to **help teachers and school leaders improve their skills** so they can better support student learning. It also helps ensure all students have access to effective educators.

TITLE III

Title III provides funding to **help English learners and immigrant students** develop English language skills and succeed academically. It supports these students in meeting the same state academic standards as all other students.

TITLE IV

Title IV provides funding to support a **well-rounded education**, promote safe and healthy learning environments, and **improve the use of technology** to enhance student learning.

Completing surveys is critical to maintaining and securing new funding within federal programs. The information we gather allows us to create the best learning environment for your child.
Your voice matters, and we appreciate your input.

Scan the QR code to complete the survey for 2026-2027. The survey can also be accessed at: www.rpsb.la/parentsurvey2026