Title I
Improving your child’s education

What is Title I?
It’s nation’s largest assistance program for schools. The goal of Title I is to help every child get a high-quality education.
-Title I resources are directed toward students who need them most. Services may be provided at a public school (including charter schools), or at a private or parochial school (under certain conditions).
Title I helps students, teachers and parents. The program can help:
-children do better in school and instill self-confidence
-teachers understand the needs and concerns of students and parents
-parents understand their child and are more involved in the child’s education.

Parents are an important part of the Title I team
Be active in your Title I program. Start by attending the annual Title I meeting. You can:
- Learn more about Title I and your rights and responsibilities as a parent.
- Work with other parents and teachers.
- Begin to plan and carry out programs. Check with the school for Title I meeting dates.

Know your rights.
As the parent of a child in a Title I school, you have the right to:
- see child’s report on your child and the school
- request information about your child’s teacher’s qualifications
- help decide if Title I is meeting your child’s needs, and offer suggestions for improvement.

How does Title I work?
Federal, state and local governments work together.

1. The federal government provides funding to the state. To get funds, each state must submit a plan describing:
   - what all students are expected to know and be able to do
   - the standards of performance that all students are expected to meet
   - ways to measure the schools’ progress.
2. The state educational agency (SEA) sends the money to schools districts based on the number of families below a set income level.
3. The local school district (called a local education agency or LEA) identifies eligible schools and distributes Title I resources.

The school Title I program is revised each year by administrators, teachers and parents. A school improvement plan is written.

How Title I helps children
Title I schools work to:
- identify students most in need of educational help (students do not have to meet income standards to qualify)
- set goals for improvement
- measure students progress using standards set in the state’s Title I plan
- develop programs that add to regular classroom instruction
-involve parents in all aspects of the program.
A “parental involvement policy” helps parents understand and take part in the school’s efforts.

**Title I programs generally offer:**
- more teachers and assistants
- more training for school staff
- extra time for instruction
- a variety of teaching methods and materials
- smaller classes
- counseling and mentoring
- career and college information.
Title I teachers and other staff work closely together and may also help students by offering parenting skills workshops for parents.

**More facts about Title I**
Title I serves children through one of two types of programs:
- school wide Title I programs serve all students in a school. They can be developed at schools in which at least 40 percent of the children meet certain income guidelines.
- Targeted assistance programs help ensure that eligible children receive assistance to meet performance standards. Strategies may include extended day or extended year programs.

**Student progress** is measured each year by administrators, teachers and parents to ensure all students, including Title I students, are reaching the goals set for improvement.
Note: If certain goals for improvement are not met after a specified time, your child may be eligible for other Title I benefits, such as tutoring or school choice. Ask your school administrator for more information.

**State performance standards** help schools measure progress by comparing yearly assessments of all students.

**Be part of Title I’s success** participate in your child’s education. You can:
- Attend school events.
- Talk about homework with your child.
- Show how schoolwork relates to daily life.
- Make an appointment to visit the classroom as an observer, volunteer or assistant.
- Join parents’ organizations.
Ask the school about training programs that the LEA and the school must provide to help parents participate in Title I.

**Be aware of your child’s performance**

- Attend parent-teacher conferences.
- Request additional meetings, if needed.
- Keep teachers informed about events and issues that may affect your child’s work or behavior.

_Everyone benefits from Title I. Be part of a winning team!_