

Title I Compliance Information

All Wayne County schools are Title I compliant. You can obtain more information about Federal Programs in Mississippi by visiting the Mississippi Department of Education's website and click "Federal Programs" on the drop-down menu.

Please contact Ferdy Pippen at the WCSD Federal Programs Office for any additional information regarding the Parent Involvement Plan or Title I.

What is Title I?

Title I is authorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which is the largest federally-funded educational program. The purpose is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and state academic assessments.

Congress passed the Every Student Succeeds Act, and then it was signed into law on December 10, 2015, amending the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

ESSA increases state authority on standards, assessments and interventions, and adds specific restrictions to the United States Secretary of Education involvement in state decisions. Over the next few years, the United States Department of Education will provide guidance through a negotiated rule-making process and other means. States will be making decisions and exercising flexibility accordingly.

How do schools qualify to receive Title I funds?

The school district uses Title I funds they receive to help public schools with the highest percentages of children from low-income families. Schools enrolling at least 40% of children from low-income families are eligible to use Title I funds for schoolwide programs designed to upgrade their entire educational program to improve achievement for all students, particularly the lowest-achieving students. Title I money is used to supplement and improve regular education programs.

What is a Schoolwide Title I program?

The purpose of a schoolwide program is to improve student achievement throughout the entire school. Individual students are not identified as eligible to participate. Rather, every child will benefit from the added services and programs that a schoolwide Title I plan can offer. All school staff will focus on the entire educational program and improving the achievement of all students, particularly those who are low-achieving. In addition, a school improvement plan must be developed and implemented with the involvement of parents, teachers, principals, and administrators. Essentially, a schoolwide program helps a school do more for all of its students.

What Role Do Parents Play?

Parental involvement is a critical component of Title I legislation. Schools receiving Title I funding are obligated to implement programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in school-related programs. Schools may also provide opportunities for parents to increase their knowledge and skills related to their children's education. Such programs, activities, and procedures must be planned and implemented after meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.

How Are Schools Held Accountable?

Schools receiving Title I funds are evaluated each year by administrators, teachers, and parents using state and local assessments to determine if the school has made adequate yearly progress. If the program goals have not been met, program and school plans are revised. Additional information about our performance can be found on the Mississippi Department of Education's Website.

Title I Requirement for Parental Involvement

The Every Student Succeeds Act requires that schools involve parents in the education of their children. It is our goal to strengthen the partnership between the school, family and community through training and support for our parents. Specifically, we will work with parents to provide information about Title I regulations, involve them in decisions about the Title I program, provide literacy training, provide math training upon request and encourage active participation in their child(ren)'s education.

The parent involvement requirements for schools and districts serving students through Title I are:

- ❑ **Family and Parent Engagement Policy for Title I Schools** (District/School)
In accordance with federal and state requirements, WCSD has developed the Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Plan. This plan is up for adoption each year. Parents can suggest revisions and edits throughout the year. The plan is formally adopted in the fall of each year.
- ❑ **School-Parent Compact** (Schools)
Each year Title I schools must develop a School-Parent Compact which outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and how the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children to achieve the state of Mississippi's high standards.
- ❑ **Annual Meeting for Title I Parents of Public and Private School Students** (District/School)
The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 requires that each Title I School hold an annual meeting to inform parents of their school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the right of parents to be involved in those programs.
- ❑ **Parent Notification** (School/District)

The Every Student Succeeds Act requires schools to provide many different kinds of information and notices to parents about their children's school, academic progress, teachers, and more. Schools must make reasonable efforts to present the information in an understandable format and in a language parents can understand.

□ **Teacher Information a Parent's Right to Know** (District/School)

Federal law gives parents the right to request information about the qualifications of their children's teachers, specifically whether the teacher has met state qualifications and has a license for the grade level(s) and subject(s) he or she teaches, whether the teacher has an emergency or provisional license, and what degrees the teacher holds and the field of discipline of his or her certification or degree. Schools must also notify parents if their child has been taught by an out-of-field teacher for more than 4 weeks.

□ **District Report Cards** (District)

Each school receiving Title I funds must publicly disseminate a report card to parents that includes aggregate student achievement at each proficiency level on state tests, disaggregated student achievement at each proficiency level on state tests by race, ethnicity, gender, disability status, migrant status, English proficiency, and status as economically disadvantaged; comparisons of student achievement to state annual measurable objectives for each group on each test; and percentage of students not tested disaggregated by subgroups. This report card comes from the Mississippi Department of Education. When it is made available to our district it will be posted on WCSD's website.

Get additional information about our school district on the Wayne County School District's website at www.wcsdms.com or at the Mississippi Department of Education's website at www.mdek12.org