

Title I, Part A – Annual Meeting: What Everyone Needs to Know



**ELLIJAY PRIMARY SCHOOL
GILMER COUNTY CHARTER SCHOOL SYSTEM**

A Federally Funded Program



- Title I, Part A is a federal funded program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965. This act provides federal funds through the Georgia Department of Education to local educational agencies (LEAs) and public schools with high numbers or percentages of children from low-income families.
- LEAs target the Title I funds they receive to public schools with the highest percentages of children from low income families.
- Title I funds are provided to ensure that all children meet challenging State academic content and student achievement standards.
- **Over 50,000 public schools** receive Title I funds.
- Title I served over **17 million** public school students

Types of Title I Programs



- **School Wide**

- Option for schools with at least 40% of the students in the school are from low income families.
- Every student in the school is eligible for Title I services.

- **Targeted Assistance**

- Less than 40% of the students are low income or the school chooses to have a targeted assistance program.
- Only low income students are eligible for Title I services.

All elementary and middle schools in Gilmer County are considered school wide.

Budgetary Issues



- The district bases student eligibility upon enrollment in the free and reduced lunch program.
- Schools are “rank ordered” based on free and lunch percentages.
- This “rank order” determines how much of the budget may be spent in each school.
- All items purchased with Title money must be addressed in the school’s “School Improvement Plan”.
- All uses of federal funds must supplement and not supplant local monies.

Parent Involvement



- The term parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including and ensuring that:
 - Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
 - Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at schools.
 - Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, when appropriate, in decision making as well as being a part of the advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

Parent Involvement: Policies and Plans



- Title I, Part A of ESEA has strengthened and expanded the requirements for involving **all** parents of Title I students in the decision making process as it relates to student achievement.
- The LEA, school, parents, and community stakeholders must jointly develop and agree upon the policy/plan that will describe the means for carrying out the Title I, Part A requirements. The policy/plan must then be distributed to parents of participating children and made available to the local community. It must ensure that strong strategies are in place to:
 - Build the capacity to involve parents in an effective partnership with the school.
 - Share and support high student academic achievement.
 - The policies/plans are reviewed each year and the GADOE Rubric is used to ensure the policies/plans meet compliance requirements.

Parent Involvement: Required Notifications



- ESEA Flexibility Waiver School Designation Status:
 - At the start of the school year, Priority and Focus Schools are required to notify all parents of eligible Title I students of their school's designation status under the ESEA Flexibility Waiver. At this time, GCCSS does not have any Priority or Focus Schools.
 - All Title I Schools, regardless of their designation, must notify all parents that their child attends a Title I school.
- Intradistrict Transfer Option for ESEA – Public School Choice – letter, electronic or other reasonable means. Notification must be made prior to July 1st of the upcoming school year.
- Annual Parents' Right to Know – Teacher and Paraprofessional qualifications

Parent Involvement: Funding – 1%



- At a minimum, LEAs are required to set aside 1% of their Title I funds for parent involvement activities as listed in their School Parent Involvement Policy. The Gilmer County Charter School System uses its 1% to partially fund a district level parent involvement coordinator.



School-Parent Compact



- Every Title I school must have a school-parent compact, jointly developed with and approved by parents as part of their school's Parent Involvement Policy. All parents are invited to participate in this process.
- The grade/department specific school-parent compact outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and how school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

School-Parent Compact: The Process



- Provide all parents of Title I students the opportunity to be involved in the development of the school-parent compacts.
- Outline how parents, school staff, and students will share responsibility for student academic achievement and how they will build and develop a partnership to help students achieve the state's standards.
- Describe the district and school student performance standards as well as provide ways in which the **school** will support the student's learning through high-quality curriculum and instruction.
- Describe the ways in which **parents** will be responsible for supporting their children's learning.
- Describe the ways in which **students** will be responsible for their learning.

School-Parent Compact: The Process



- Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum –
 - At the elementary schools, teachers must have at least one parent-teacher conference, during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's academic achievement.
 - Frequent reports to parents on their children's progress.
 - Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities.
- Written in a family-friendly language and to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand.
- Distribute a copy of the compact to parents, students, and a school representative for review and signature. All compacts must be signed and dated by each
- Develop a process of reviewing the compact annually with all parents of Title I students having the opportunity to provide input. The current school year and revision date must be included on the compact.

Title I, Part A: Purchases at EES



- Teachers – salary and benefits of teachers for class size reduction
- Academic coaches
- After school tutoring
- Professional learning
- Technology
 - iPads
 - Chromebooks
- Instructional programs and software
 - Achieve3000: Smarty Ants
 - BrainPOP Jr.

Title II, Part A: Improvement of Teacher and Principal Quality



- **Needs Assessment**
 - Annual
 - A survey was sent to all administrators, teachers, and paraprofessionals. Parents and community members were also invited to participate.
- **Equity Plan**
 - Annual
 - The plan is designed to identify and address the prioritized needs and equity gaps.
- **Budget Information**
 - Monies may only be used to support the improvement of teacher and leader quality (examples: trainings, stipends, salary and benefits for class size reductions)

Questions



Thank you for your attention.