

## **Title I**

### **WHAT IS TITLE I?**

Title I is supplemental federal funding for low achieving children, especially in high poverty schools. This program provides extra academic support and learning opportunities for children who lag behind in meeting challenging state standards. Title I helps New Castle Schools by supplementing and improving the regular education programs offered at Title I schools. The goal is to help students meet the State standards.

### **HOW DOES A SCHOOL BECOME A TITLE I SCHOOL?**

The number of students that qualify for free and/or reduced lunch is used to determine the district-wide poverty and school poverty levels. Title I can serve schools at or above the district-wide poverty average. Schools with 75% or greater poverty must be served.

### **TYPES OF TITLE I SCHOOL**

Target Assistance Schools (TAS): Target Assistance Schools serve identified children who are at risk of not meeting the state's high academic standards. Riley Elementary and Sunnyside Elementary are Targeted Assistance Schools.

School Wide Programs (SWP): School Wide Programs upgrade the entire educational program within a school to meet the needs of the lowest achieving children. They target the resources on children who are at risk of not meeting the state's high standards. In New Castle, Eastwood Elementary, Parker Elementary, and Wilbur Wright Elementary are School Wide Title I Programs.

### **WHO IS SERVED BY TITLE I?**

In both types of Title I programs, children who demonstrate the greatest need must be considered first. Services are based on academic needs of individual children, not on the poverty of a child or his/her family. Title I serves migrant children, limited English proficient children, children who are homeless, children with disabilities and any child who is in academic need.

### **NOW I KNOW WHO IS SERVED, WHAT SERVICES DO THEY GET?**

The types of services depend on the school. The types of services are limited only by the imagination and by solid research based programs and practices. Services must support children's ability to master the standards in English/Language Arts and Mathematics. For example, Title I can provide tutoring, special teachers in reading and/or math, pre-school programs, extended day/year programs, learning laboratories, professional development for teachers and parents, and home-school liaisons, and a variety of other services.

## **WHAT ABOUT THE MONEY?**

Census data is used to determine the amount of Title I money the district receives. A "per pupil rate" is calculated, then Title I schools receive their money based on the number of children on free/reduced lunch times the "per pupil rate." The "per pupil rate" varies from district to district, and from school to school. The highest poverty schools must receive equal or greater funding than schools with lower rates of poverty.

## **ACCOUNTABILITY**

Title I requires states to develop standards and assessments that will challenge students served by Title I to perform to high levels. Research suggests that high standards, when coupled with valid and reliable assessments and aligned support, creates a powerful influence over what children are taught and how much they can learn.

## **PARENT RIGHT-TO-KNOW**

Parental involvement is an important component of Title I. Parents are needed for planning, policy, participation, partnering, and program evaluation.

New Castle Schools intend to follow the parental policy guidelines in accordance with ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act):

### Policy Guidelines

- Convene an annual meeting
- Explain the requirements and the rights of the parents to be involved
- Offer a flexible schedule of meeting (e.g. mornings and evenings)
- Involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way to plan, review, and improve programs such as parental involvement policy and school wide policy
- Include a School-Parent Compact which is a written agreement of what schools and parents are each supposed to do to help students achieve
- Parents in all Title I buildings may request information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers including:
  - If the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level and subject area taught;
  - If the teacher is teaching under emergency or temporary status in which state qualifications or licensing criteria are waved;
  - The teacher's baccalaureate degree major, graduate certification, and field of discipline; and
  - Whether the student is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications

New Castle Schools provide notices to parents if their children are in schools that are in school improvement.

New Castle Schools provides the following notification to parents of students in Title I schools:

- Information on the level of achievement of the student in each of the

State's  
academic assessments:

ILEARN - Grades 3 – 8

IREAD-3 – Grade 3

Any comments indicating parents' dissatisfaction with the school's Title I program will be collected and submitted along with the Title I Application for Grant to the Division of Compensatory Education.