



**2020-2021**

# Annual Title I & Family Engagement Meeting

West Chester Elementary

Amy Wooley



# Why are we here?

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- The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that each Title I school hold an annual meeting of Title I families in order to:
  - inform you of your school's participation in Title I,
  - explain the requirements of Title I, and
  - explain your rights as parents and family members to be involved.

# What will I learn?

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- What is a Title I school?
- What are my rights?
- What can Title I funds be used for?
- How does our school use Title I funds?
- What is the SIP?
- What are our schoolwide program goals?
- How is parent and family engagement funded?
- What is the Parent and Family Engagement Policy?
- What is the School-Parent Compact?
- What curriculum does our school use?
- What tests will my child be taking?
- How can I be involved?
- Who can I contact for help?

# What is a Title I school?

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- Title I was passed in 1965 under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). It is the largest federal assistance program for our nation's schools.
- Title I schools receive extra funding (Title I dollars) from the federal government. These dollars are used to:
  - identify students experiencing academic difficulties and provide assistance to help these students;
  - purchase additional staff, programs, materials, and/or supplies; and
  - conduct parent and family engagement meetings, trainings, events, and/or activities.

# What are my rights?

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- The families and parents of Title I students have a right, by law, to:
  - be involved in decisions made at both the school and district level;
  - be provided with information on your child's level of achievement on tests in reading/language arts, writing, mathematics, and science;
  - request and receive information on the qualifications of your child's teacher and paraprofessionals who are working with your child; and
  - request opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of your child. The school is required to respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

# What can Title I funds be used for?

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- In general, Title I funds may be used for:
  - smaller class sizes,
  - **additional teachers and paraprofessionals,**
  - additional training for school staff,
  - extra time for instruction (before and/or after school programs),
  - parent and family engagement activities, and/or
  - a variety of supplemental teaching materials, equipment, and technology.

# How does our school use Title I funds?

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- For fiscal year 2020, our school was allotted approximately \$83,700 in Title I funding.
- We developed a **Schoolwide Program** and utilized the funds for the following:
  - Supplemental staff:  
**Approximately \$82,000** for interventionists and assistants
  - Programs/Materials/Supplies: \$1300

# How does our school use Title I funds?

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- For **fiscal year 2020**, our school was allotted approximately \$83,700 in Title I funding.
- We developed a **Schoolwide Program**, which means we plan to spend our funds on the following:
  - Supplemental staff:  
**Approximately \$82,000** for interventionists and assistants  
Instructional materials= \$8200  
Parent Involvement = \$1400



# What is the SIP?

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- The SIP is the School Improvement Plan. It includes:
  - the identification of the school planning team and how they will be engaged in the planning process;
  - a needs assessment and summary of academic and non-academic data;
  - prioritized goals, strategies, and action steps to help address the academic and non-academic needs of students;
  - teacher and staff professional development needs; and
  - budgets and the coordination of resources.
- The school must include family representatives on our school planning team.
  - \* If you would like to be a part of this process, please email Ms. Wooley.

# What are our schoolwide program goals?

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1. Increase reading levels for all students within our building.
2. Improve attendance rate for all students.
3. Increase students' achievement around math standards.

# How is parent and family engagement funded?

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- Any district with a Title I allocation exceeding \$500,000 is required by law to set aside 1% of it's Title I allocation for parent and family engagement.
- Of that 1%, 10% may be reserved at the district for system-wide initiatives related to parent and family engagement. The remaining 90% must be allocated to all Title I schools in the district.
- You, as Title I parents and family members, have the right to be involved in how this money is spent.

# How is parent and family engagement funded?

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- in 2020-2021, we will receive approximately \$1400 in parent and family engagement funding. We plan to use these funds for:
  - Parent and Family Engagement Meeting and Events

Last year, we had Night at the Museum, Reading night, and an Escape Room night. Stay tuned for this year's events, they will likely be virtual.
  - Materials/Supplies

# What is a Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

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- These plans address how the district and school will implement the parent and family engagement requirements of ESSA. Components should include:
  - how parents and families can be involved in decision-making and activities;
  - how parent and family engagement funds are being used;
  - how information and training will be provided to families; and
  - how the school will build capacity in families and staff for strong parent and family engagement.
- You, as a Title I parent or family member, have the right to be involved in the development of these plans.

# What is a Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

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- The district Parent and Family Engagement Policy can be found here:  
[www.chestercountyschools.org](http://www.chestercountyschools.org)
- The school Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be shared from your child's teacher in late August. In addition, the policy can be found here:
  - [www.chestercountyschools.org](http://www.chestercountyschools.org)

# What is a School-Parent Compact?

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- A school-parent compact is a written commitment that outlines how the entire school community – teachers, families, and students will share the responsibility for improved academic achievement.
- The compact must describe how the school will:
  - provide high-quality curriculum and instruction;
  - hold parent-teacher conferences, annually in elementary schools;
  - provide parents with reports on their child's progress;
  - provide parents reasonable access to staff.
  - provide parents opportunities to volunteer; and
  - ensure regular two-way meaningful communication between family members and staff, to the extent practicable, in a language family members can understand.
- You, as a Title I parent or family member, have the right to be involved in the development of the compact.

## What is a School-Parent Compact?

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- The school-parent compact will be shared classroom folders later this month. In addition, the compact can be found here:

[www.chestercountyschools.org](http://www.chestercountyschools.org)



# What curriculum does our school use?

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- The Tennessee Academic Standards provide a common set of expectations for what students will know and be able to do at the end of a grade for each subject area.
- Tennessee's academic standards form the framework for everything taught at West Chester Elementary School.
- For more information about Tennessee's academic standards, see:  
<https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/education/instruction/academic-standards.html>

We have the freedom to choose curriculum that aligns with the standards. Teachers will share more about curriculum when you meet with them.

## What tests will my child be taking?

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- enCASE testing (3 times per year)
- AimsWeb- used to determine particular reading and math skills need to be reinforced.
- TCAP tests for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades in the spring.

## How can I be involved?

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- We need you! Research has proven that family engagement in education has more impact on student achievement than any other factor.
- To get involved with the SIP, respond to surveys, talk with staff about ideas.
- To get involved with the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, complete surveys that are sent home, provide real feedback, volunteer to help.
- To get involved with the School Parent Compact, read the compact carefully, provide notes for any changes that you think that need to be made.

# How can I be involved?

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- Have your child at school every day. He/she will miss something if absent.
- monitor grades and schoolwork by signing papers and communicating with teachers;
- attending family events and meetings ;
- joining family groups and committees (e.g., PTO, advisory councils, etc.); and
- reading school/classroom newsletters or websites and that contain examples of learning activities families can do with students at home.

## Who can I contact for help?

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- For general questions, call the front office at: 8150
- To reach the principal, Amy Wooley.call: 989-8150 or email at Amy.wooley@chestercountyschools.org
- To reach the school counselor, brandi.welch@chestercountyschools.org
- To reach your child's teacher, call the front office or view our staff directory at: [www.chestercountyschools.org](http://www.chestercountyschools.org) and send an email

**WE JUST WANT TO SAY...**  
**THANK YOU!**

# What is parent and family engagement?

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- “Through effective communication with parents, teachers can have the greatest impact on their day-to-day success with students. With parents on their side, teachers can more effectively manage most academic and behavioral issues that arise. When the most important adults in a child’s life are working together, students benefit enormously.”

—Lee and Marleen Canter

Source: *Parents on your Side: A Teacher’s Guide to Creating Positive Relationships with Parents*

# What are the benefits of family engagement?

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- For students:

- Higher grades and test scores
- Better attendance
- More positive attitudes and better behavior
- Higher graduation rates
- Greater enrollment in postsecondary education

- For Parents and Families:

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

- For Schools and Teachers:

- Improved teacher and staff morale
- Higher ratings of schools and teachers by families
- More support from families
- Higher student achievement
- Increased and improved relationships within the community