



West Side Elementary

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Title I Annual Parent Meeting Agenda

Sept 2nd, 2021
Virtual

Welcome parents and community members! We are glad to welcome you to our school's Title I Annual Parent meeting. We will be reviewing and discussing our school's Title I Program. We will cover the following items that are important to you as parents.

What is a Title I School?

Title I of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) provides financial assistance to the State and local education agencies to meet the needs of at-risk children. The goal of Title I is to provide instructional services and activities which support students in meeting the state's challenging performance standards.

Title I and Parent & Family Engagement Money

How does our school spend Title I and Parent & Family Engagement money, and how does our school participate in the Title I programs? Title I programs generally offer:

- Smaller classes and special instruction spaces
- Additional teachers and paraprofessionals
- Opportunities for professional development for school staff
- A variety of supplementary teaching methods
- Individualized programs for students
- Additional teaching materials which supplement their regular instruction
- Technology Resources
- Parent & Family engagement in children's education

At Westside Elementary we use our Title I money to:

- Provide learning materials through technology resources
- Provide parent & family engagement activities and services
- Employ the services of an academic coach and reading and math interventionist
- Fund a full-time parent involvement coordinator and maintain a Parent Resource Workroom

What are our school's Title I School-Wide Requirements?

WSE is a Title I schoolwide program. The purpose of schoolwide Title I programs is to improve the entire educational program in school. This should result in improving the academic achievement of all students, particularly the lowest achieving students.

What are our school wide goals?

- Increase the percentage of students who score in the developing learner or better categories in ELA by three percentage points on the GA Milestones.
- Increase the percentage of students who meet the grade level stretch band Lexile score by three percentage points on the GA Milestones.

What programs/supports are in place to help my child?

- Computer and technology software to support reading and math instruction.
- Student process will be monitored throughout the school year. Interventions will be provided for students who do not master all the elements of the standard during school day and after school.

What about curriculum and Tests?

Catoosa County Schools use the state adopted standards as the basis of curriculum. Currently, the adopted curriculum is the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE). These standards provide clear expectations for instruction, assessment, and student work. Teachers are encouraged to use instructional frameworks which include an opening, work session, and closing for delivery of instruction. Pacing guides and curriculum units called "frameworks: are some of the resources used to support the implementation of the Georgia Standards of Excellence. These standards provide a consistent framework to prepare students for success in college and/or the 21st century workplace. Resources can be found online at www.georgiastandards.org and in the Family Resource Center.

Students in grades three through twelve take the Georgia Milestones assessment Instruction is centered on the Georgia Standards of Excellence. At the Elementary level, third and fourth grade students take ELA and Math. Fifth grade students take ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies.

Students will also take a reading and math benchmark test three times a year using the MAP assessment program for kindergarten through fifth grade students.

The purposes of the Georgia Students Assessment Programs are to measure student achievement relative to the state-mandated content standards, to identify students failing to achieve mastery of content, to provide teachers with diagnostic information, and to assist school systems in identifying strengths and weaknesses in order to establish priorities in planning educational programs. The assessment program includes customized criterion-referenced tests at the elementary, middle and high school levels.

Georgia Milestones relies on the Georgia Student Growth Model (GSGM) initiative designed to provide students, parents, educators, and the public with information on student progress. Academic achievement only tells part of the story. The addition of student growth tells a more complete story about the academic performance of students. Now we not only know where students end up, but we also know how much progress they made to get there. This is an exciting time for students and their families.

Is my child's teacher highly qualified?

As a Title I school, we must meet federal regulations related to teacher qualifications as defined by ESEA. These regulations allow you to learn more about your child's teachers' training and credentials. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching.
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived.
- You may also ask whether your child received help from a paraprofessional, and information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

All teachers at West Side Elementary School are highly qualified in the content area they are teaching, meeting Title I regulations. If you have any questions about the above, please contact Robert Mountjoy at (706-866-9211) or email him at (rmountjoy@catoosa.k12.us.ga).

How responsive will the school be to my questions when staff is contacted?

Parents are always welcome to contact their child's teacher or administrators through the school website (www.wse.catoosa.k12.ga.us), email, phone calls (706-866-9211) and written notes.

How do parents lodge complaints?

Parents should bring school complaints to the school principal. There is a procedure to address your concerns. Parents should bring Title I complaints to Gina Haynes, Catoosa County Schools Title I Coordinator. She may be contacted at (706-965-2297) or (ghaynes@catoosa.k12.ga.us).

What is required by law for parent and family Engagement?

School systems must ensure that strong strategies are in place to:

- Build capacity in parents as partners.
- Share and support parents in attaining high student achievement.'

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring that :

1. Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
2. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.
3. 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 committee to assist in the education of their child.
4. Policies that are jointly developed with parents guide what we do in parent & family engagement. Check out the [Catoosa County Parent & Family Engagement Policy](#) and the [West Side Elementary Parent & Family Engagement Policy](#). We welcome your recommendations on these policies at any time. A copy of the WSE Policy was sent home the first couple of weeks of school.
5. Each Title I school jointly develops a [Family-School Compact](#) that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

Parent & Family Engagement Opportunities

- Parent Orientation - September 2nd 2021 Virtual
- Title I Annual Meeting- September 2nd 2021 Virtual
- Parent & Family Volunteer Orientation -Date TBD
- Title I Fall Parent Advisory Council Meeting- Date TBD
- 1st Semester POWWOW Night - Date TBD
- 2nd Semester POWWOW Night- Date TBD
- Title I Spring Parent Advisory Council Meeting- Date TBD
- 5th Grade Transition to Middle School- May 2022
- Kindergarten Welcome to West Side- May 2022

Meeting dates and formats may change due to health and safety regulations

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Attend volunteer orientation- Date TBD
- Help our teachers and staff by volunteering in the Parent Resource Workroom (Room 217)
- Join the WSE PTO
- Volunteer to help with special events hosted by the school.

Thank you for attending our Title I Annual Meeting! We want to make sure you leave the meeting informed about the Title I program as well as the opportunities the school provides to get involved, so please complete an evaluation before you leave this evening! We look forward to a wonderful year in Title I!

Handouts

Documents available on West Side Elementary Website and the Catoosa County Website

- [Parents Right to Know Letter](#)
- [West Side Elementary Parent & Family Engagement School Policy](#)
 - [Catoosa County Parent & Family Engagement Policy](#)
 - [Georgia Standards of Excellence](#)
 - West Side Title I Annual Parent Meeting Agenda
 - [West Side Title I Annual Meeting Evaluation](#)