

Columbus County Schools

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

I. TITLE I:

The Title I program is designed to provide additional assistance to students who are not meeting or are at-risk of failing to meet the State's challenging performance standards. Each school, in consultation with parents and staff, design instructional programs to meet the needs of all students.

SERVICES PROVIDED:

Title I funds are used in a variety of ways, such as providing funds to individual schools to employ additional teachers to reduce class size, tutors, lead teachers, special teachers, learning labs, professional development for staff, purchase of supplies and materials, and to pay for parent involvement activities.

RIGHTS OF PARENTS:

In compliance with the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), parents may request the following information:

1. Whether the student's teacher –
 - has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
 - is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and,
 - is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
2. Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

TITLE I SCHOOLS:

Columbus County Schools serves fourteen Title I schools, which consist of all elementary and middle schools.

MIGRANT EDUCATION (TITLE I-PART C):

Columbus County Schools receives a federal grant to help migrant students and youth meet high academic challenges by overcoming the obstacles created by frequent moves, educational disruption, and cultural and language differences.

A migrant child is a child who made a qualifying move in the preceding 36 months as a migrant agricultural worker or migratory fisher, or did so with, or to join, a parent/guardian or spouse who is a migratory agricultural worker or migratory fisher.

Columbus County Schools
School and LEA Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy

The Columbus County Board of Education believes that the education of children is a cooperative effort between parents and schools. Parents are their children's first teachers and involvement by parents improves the educational achievement of their children. We believe that the involvement of Title I parents increases the effectiveness of the program and contributes significantly to the success of the children. The Columbus County Title I staff will strive to involve parents in activities throughout the school year. Our teachers at Cerro Gordo Elementary operate on the following components to involve our parents and guardians:

- 1) Parents will be encouraged to actively participate in their child's school program making suggestions when appropriate.
- 2) The schools will train teachers and administrators to communicate effectively by sponsoring activities, such as parent night, newsletters, reminders of special events, parent conferences, and interim progress reports.
- 3) Parents will be provided a description of the school curriculum and assessments used to measure progress. Parents with limited English will receive such information in their native language.
- 4) Parents will be invited to attend an annual meeting that will explain the Title I Program and encourage parents to organize and formulate suggestions for the school to consider.
- 5) As funds are available, opportunities will be offered for parents to learn about ways to encourage their children and ensure academic success by assisting their children with learning activities at home. Meetings will be offered on a flexible basis (morning/afternoon/evening), and an interpreter will be available, if needed.
- 6) Parents will be asked to sign a School-Parent Compact indicating their willingness to cooperate with the school as the school makes the same indication.
- 7) If the Title I Program is not satisfactory to one or more parents, they may submit comments to the Columbus County Schools Title I Director for consideration.
- 8) Schools are encouraged to develop a website for Parental Information.

It is believed that with the parents and the school working together and each party keeping the other informed about the success or concerns of the students, much greater achievements will be observed.

This policy, at a joint meeting of the school staff and Title I Parents, was approved on August 23, 2018. The policy is in accordance with section 1118.