

**2020-2021**

# Annual Title I & Family Engagement Meeting

Alexander Elementary

August 1, 2020

Carolyn Caldwell

# Why are we here?

- 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?

- 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?

- 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?

- 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.
  - 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?

- 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?

- In **2020-2021** our school was allotted approximately **\$195,000** in Title I funding.
- We developed a **Schoolwide Program**, which means we plan to spend our funds on the following:
  - Supplemental staff:
    - Reading Interventionist
    - Math Interventionist
    - Instructional Coach
  - Programs/Materials/Supplies:
    - Instructional supplies
    - Technology for teachers and students
    - On-line reading and math programs
    - TNReady resources in reading and math
  - Teacher Professional Development:
    - Classroom management
    - Poverty Training
    - Instruction aligned to the framework
- [The above is a list of options, please add and delete content as needed]

# What is the SIP?

- 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.

# What are our schoolwide program goals?

- To improve academic achievement in reading and math for all students at Alexander elementary School. To create a safe and respectful learning environment for all students and staff.

# How is parent and family engagement funded?

- Any district with a Title I allocation exceeding \$500,000 is required by law to set aside 1% of its 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?

- In **2020-2021** we will receive approximately \$2000.00 in parent and family engagement funding. We plan to use these funds for:
  - Parent and Family Engagement Meeting and Events  
**September 17, 2020, November 19, 2020 and March 18, 2021 all meetings are at 1:30. However, due Covid-19 these meetings may be virtual.**
  - Materials/Supplies
    - **materials and supplies for meetings & events, etc.**

# What is a Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

- 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 School-Parent Compact?

- 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?

- The school-parent compact will be shared **sent home on August 25, 2020** In addition, the compact can be found here:
  - **Alexander Elementary website.**
  - **A copy can be received from the secretaries in the main office.**

# What curriculum does our school use?

- 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.
- K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade use CKLA for ELA instruction, 3<sup>rd</sup>.-5<sup>th</sup> grade use Expeditionary Learning for ELA, All grades use Eureka Math.
- Tennessee's academic standards form the framework for everything taught at **Alexander Elementary School**,
- For more information about Tennessee's academic standards, see:

<https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/education/instruction/academic-standards.html>

# What tests will my child be taking?

- AIMSWEB, TNREADY, STAR READING AND WEEKLY ASSESSMENTS
- STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE PROFICIENT AND ABOVE ON ALL ASSESSMENTS.

# How can I be involved?

- 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, **Contact Carolyn Caldwell for dates of meetings.**
- To get involved with the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, **Carolyn Caldwell**
- To get involved with the School Parent Compact, **Carolyn Caldwell**

# How can I be involved?

- **Some of the ways you can be involved are:**
  - encouraging attendance;
  - monitoring grades and schoolwork on an online system or portal;
  - attending family events and meetings (provide specific dates when possible);
  - observing or volunteering in classrooms;
  - 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.]
  - There will be some modifications due to Covid-19.
- **[The school may choose to include other examples of family engagement tailored to their community]**

# How can I be involved?

- Parents can volunteer to serve on any of our Title I committees.

# Who can I contact for help?

- For general questions, call the front office at: [737-422-1841]
- To reach the principal, [Carolyn Caldwell], call: [73/506-2637]
- To reach the school counselor, [Victoria Toone], call: [731-422-1481]
- To reach our family liaison, Angela Searcy, call: [731-664-2500]
- To reach your child's teacher, call the front office or view our staff directory at: Alexander website, you may also get a copy of the schedule to see what time your child's teacher has planning.

**WE JUST WANT TO SAY...**

**THANK YOU!**