

Welcome!

Lowndes County Schools

Title I Annual Meeting

For Parents and Families

2023-2024



Title I Supported Event

Revised 9-19-2023

Why are we here?

Title I Federal Guidelines require that each Title I School hold an Annual Meeting of Title I families for the purpose of...

- Informing you of your school's participation in Title I.
- Explaining the requirements of Title I.
- Explaining your rights as parents/families to be involved in decision making and how 1% of the Title I Budget will be used.
- Informing you of School-Wide status and school designation

Priority ~ Alert ~ Focus ~ Reward



Being a Title I school involves receiving Federal funding to supplement school's existing programs. **These dollars are used for.....**

- ❖ Identifying students experiencing academic difficulties and providing timely assistance to help these students meet the State's challenging content standards
- ❖ Purchasing supplemental staff/programs/materials/supplies
- ❖ Conducting Family Engagement meetings/trainings/activities
- ❖ Recruiting/Hiring/Retaining Highly Qualified Teachers

Title I funds are provided to support & provide every student with equal opportunities to a great education.

Other programs that are supported with Federal funds in Lowndes County are:

- ❖ Migrant Education Program (MEP)
- ❖ Homeless (McKinney Vento Act)
- ❖ Neglected & Delinquent (N&D)

- ❖ Private Schools located in our District
- ❖ Special Education
- ❖ Supplemental Language Support for English Learners (ELs)

•**Schools receiving funds:** Schools with enrollment of **40%** or more students receiving free or reduced meals are eligible for Title I funds. By law, at least **1%** of the total Title I, Part A allocation must be devoted to Family and Community Engagement by the District. Funds are **supplemental** (or in addition to) the regular funds provided to educate all children within the District.

•LCS sets aside at least 1% of the initial Title I Part A allocation for Family Engagement. Principals have the option of expending the 1% in Family Engagement funds or pooling them back to the system level.

Family Input Encouraged!

School Improvement Plan

- A Needs Assessment and Summary of Data
- Goals and Strategies to Address Academic Needs of Students
- Professional Development Needs
- Coordination of Resources/Comprehensive Budget
- The School's Family and Community Engagement Policy

District & School Engagement Plans

- With the involvement of teachers, parents, families, and community members, the Lowndes County Schools annually reviews and revises the District and School Family and Community Engagement Plans.
- All parents/families are invited & encouraged to give input on the annual Title I Survey and throughout the school year.
- These Plans are available at the schools or the district office and on the school and district websites.

Family and Community Engagement: Families are invited to participate in writing/revising the Family and Community Engagement Plans for the district and each Title I School. The district/school is responsible for planning and conducting annual meetings with parents/families. The district/school is responsible for conducting parent/family workshops/training sessions. Family and Community Engagement strategies are coordinated among various federal education programs.

Parent & Family Engagement



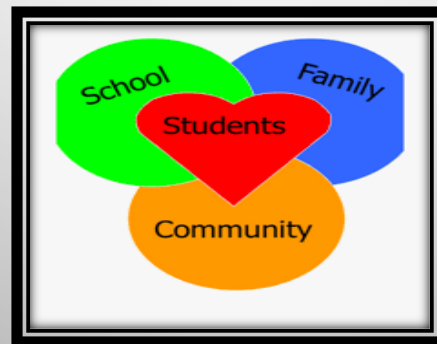


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School Parent Compact for Achievement

- The Compact is a commitment from the school, the parent/family, and the student to share in the responsibility for improved academic achievement
- The Compact is jointly developed by parents, teachers, staff members, and students. Each party is encouraged to provide input in the development and/or revision of the Compact. The Compact is updated at least annually.
- Opportunities to give input is available to all parents, families, and community members throughout the school year

Title I parents, families, and community stakeholders have the right to be involved in the development of the School-Parent Compact!



Family & Community Opportunities To Be Involved:

- Participate in Family Engagement Team meetings, Title I Annual Meeting for families, Open House and School Academic Events.
- Participate in classroom and school-wide activities, such as Lunch & Learn, Career Day, Field Day, Book Fair & Reading Events, Science Fair, Math workshops, Adventures in Learning, STEM night, and more.
- Participate in the annual revision of all Title I documents.
- Attend parent-teacher conferences, where the Compact will be discussed
- Involvement in extracurricular activities.





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What is included in the Title I Plan?

The Title I Plan addresses how Title I funds will be utilized throughout the school system.

- Student academic assessments (local and state)
- Additional assistance provided to struggling students
- Coordination and integration of federal funds and programs
- School programs including Migrant, Pre-school, School Choice, and Supplemental Educational Services as applicable.
- Family Engagement Strategies, including the School and District (LEA) Family and Community Engagement Plans

You, as a Title I Parent, have a right to be involved in the development/updating of the Title I Plans.



Required Federal Guidelines for Implementing Title I programs.

- ☐ **Student Achievement:** Establish and measure achievement standards based on Georgia Standards of Excellent (GSE)
- ☐ **Accountability:** No schools were identified as ALERT, FOCUS or PRIORITY
- ☐ **Goals:** District and School-Wide Goals for 2023-2024
- ☐ **Curriculum –Testing:** Curriculum and Assessments
- ☐ **Professional Qualifications:** All teachers hired to teach core academic subjects in a Title I school must meet certain requirements. They must have full certification, a bachelor’s degree and demonstrate competence in the subject. Parents of students in Title I schools are guaranteed annual notification of their “right to know” about teacher qualifications. Parents may request and receive from the district, information regarding the professional qualifications of the teachers.





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Notification to Parents of Participating English Learners

In compliance with the ESSA, the Lowndes County School district notifies parents of participating English Learners (Els) of their child's eligibility for federally-funded supplemental language support programs. This notice also permits the parent to waive participation in the Title-funded services.
Title I, Part A, Section 1112(e)(3).

Notification to Parents Regarding Teacher Qualifications

In compliance with the ESSA requirements, the Lowndes County School district provides notification that you may request information about the professional qualifications of your child's teacher. The following may be requested:

Certification ~ College major/certification or degree ~ Qualifications of the paraprofessional

In addition, parents must be notified by the school when their child has been taught for 4 consecutive weeks by a Non Highly Qualified teacher.



Parent/Family Information Resources

- Lowndes County Schools (LCS) employ a District Family & Community Engagement Coordinator. The Coordinator is available to assist and support parents/families, coordinate family engagement events and to conduct parent/family meetings at the school and district levels. The goals are to promote, coordinate and increase family engagement in each school.
- Family Engagement resources are also available at each school in the Parent-Family Information Resource Center (PIRC)

Complaint Procedures

Grounds for Complaint: Any individual, organization or agency may file a complaint with LCS if that individual, organization or agency believes and alleges that LCS is violating a Federal statute or regulation that applies to a program under the ESSA guidelines. The complaint must allege a violation occurred not more than one year prior to the date the complaint is received, unless a longer period is reasonable because the violation is considered systemic or ongoing. Guidance for filing a complaint can be found on the GaDOE website or LCS website. Contact:

herbhamilton@lowndes.k12.ga.us

McKinney -Vento – Homeless Assistance Act

The McKinney –Vento Homeless Assistance Act provides certain rights and protections for families experiences homelessness. According to McKinney-Vento, anyone who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time residence is homeless.

LCS employs a full-time Homeless Liaison Case Manger to assist families. For assistance, please contact:

Tan Jones – 229-316-1889 - tanjones@Lowndes.k12.ga.us

Title I ~ Family & Community Engagement Information

**Herb Hamilton, Federal Programs
Director
herbhamilton@lowndes.k12.ga.us**

**LaVerne Rome, District Family &
Community Engagement Coordinator
lavernerome@lowndes.k12.ga.us**

LCS - School-Wide Title I Schools:

- ❖ **Clyattville Elementary School**
- ❖ **Lake Park Elementary School**
- ❖ **Moulton-Branch Elementary School**
- ❖ **Pine Grove Elementary School**
- ❖ **Lowndes Middle School**

CONTACT US
FOR MORE INFO

Any Questions?