

Rock Hill Schools-Title I Schoolwide Programs

In 1965, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) was passed under the leadership of President Lyndon B. Johnson. Title I was the largest federal assistance program for our nation's schools. The goals remain the same today as it did in 1965, **to provide a high-quality education for every child.**

The federal government provides funding to states each year for Title I. To receive funds, each state must submit a plan describing what all children are expected to know and be able to do. The plan also outlines the high quality academic performance standards that all children are expected to meet and ways to measure the student's progress. Once the state submits a plan, the federal government releases Title I funds to the state department of education which in turn allocates funds to the individual school districts.

Schools that have a free or reduced lunch population of 75% or greater are required by the federal government to be served as Title I schools. In Rock Hill Schools, for the 2016-2017 school year there are eight Titles I schools.

Each Title I school develops a plan in conjunction with parents and community members that address the specific needs of that school. All students attending a Title I school benefit from the services provided. A copy of each Title I school's plan is available at the school.

For more information about Title I services in Rock Hill Schools, please contact Dr. Missy Brakefield, Director of Federal Programs, mbrakefi@rhmail.org (981-1060).

Parent's Right to Know

One of the major components of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is an increased emphasis on parental involvement. As per Title I and ESSA, parents may request information regarding the professional qualifications of their child's teachers, including:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualification and certification requirements for the grade levels and subjects he/she is teaching;
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived;
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration;
- Whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional and, if so, their qualifications.

Parents may obtain information about their child's teacher by contacting the school or through the State Department of Education at "Parents' Right to Know",

<http://www.ed.sc.gov/policy/federal-education-programs/esea-title-ii-part-a1/>

Curriculum and Assessment

Rock Hill Schools administer a variety of standardized assessments to its students. SC READY is given to students in grades three through eight for ELA and Math. The SC Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) is given to all students in grades four through eight. Both measure student performance on the state standards.

For each SC READY test, four overall performance levels will be reported:

- **Exceeding Expectations**
- **Meeting Expectations**
- **Approaching Expectations**
- **Not Meeting Expectations**
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For each SCPASS test, three overall performance levels will be reported:

Exemplary - The student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.

Met - The student met the grade level standard.

Not Met - The student did not meet the grade level standard.

For more information concerning the curriculum used in Rock Hill Schools and the district testing calendar please visit the school district website at www.rock-hill.k12.sc.us

Federal Programs Title I Planning and Participation

Rock Hill Schools continually monitors the implementation of the Title I plan and welcomes input from parents, school staff, and community members regarding its current and future Title I plans. If you would like to participate on the district or school's Title I planning team or make comments on the plans, please contact the Director of Federal Programs, Dr. Missy Brakefield, mbrakefi@rhmail.org or 981-1060.

Parent Involvement Policy

The district along with Title I school in Rock Hill Schools annually develops a parent involvement policy. The purpose of the policy is to describe how the school will carry out the parental/family involvement requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The parent involvement policy is distributed first to parents in a draft format. Parents have the opportunity to provide comments and suggestions concerning changes they wish to make to the school/ district policy.

The draft policy is distributed to families during the first semester of the school year. The draft district parent policy is usually sent home with your child during the month of October. Comments and suggestions for revising the parent policy are received by the Director of Federal Programs. The final district parent policy is then revised after all comments and suggestions are

considered. The original and updated versions of the Rock Hill Schools School parent involvement policy may be found <http://www.rock-hill.k12.sc.us/Page/5303>

Parent/Family Literacy and Math Support

One of the cornerstones of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is promoting parent/family and involvement. Parents, guardians, and community members are encouraged to be involved at the eight Title I schools in Rock Hill Schools. Throughout the school year your child's school will be hosting many different parent/family literacy and math events. The purpose of the parent/family literacy and math activities are to provide assistance to parents/families so that they may better help their child with academics. Your child's school will be hosting many different, fun, interactive academic events throughout the year. Watch for flyers and announcements for the upcoming parent/family literacy activities at your child's school. For additional information please contact the Title I Parent Teacher Specialists, Linda Crute lcrute@rhmail.org and Jo Humphries jhumphries@rhmail.org or 985-3017.