

Professional Development

Title I teachers keep learning too! Our Title I teachers are lifelong learners. You can be confident that your child's teacher is always looking for ways to help students learn.

Our highly qualified teachers attend workshops and conferences to make sure they know the most effective methods for helping students meet their learning goals. This professional development allows Title I teachers to learn about...

- **new** teaching methods,
- **effective planning** for classroom instruction,
- ways to **promote learning**,
- how to **involve parents** in the classroom, and
- methods for **evaluating** how students are improving.

Title I teachers work closely with classroom teachers to support your child's learning by

- **personalizing** instruction to meet your child's needs,
- helping to plan **effective lessons** for all students,
- using materials that complement and **extend** classroom learning,
- helping teachers **evaluate** your child's **progress**, and
- communicating with you about how your child is doing.

As a result, your child has a committed team of adults at school and at home that are working together effectively to help him/her get the highest quality education possible!

Title I School Contacts

Black's Mill Elementary

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Robinson Elementary

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Dawson County Schools

You,
Your child, and
Title I

TITLE I

2013 – 2014

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Welcome to Title I

We welcome you and your child to the Title I Program – a program that provides eligible children with extra time and additional ways of learning to help them be successful in school.

We would like to share with you what Title I is and how it can help your child in school.

- **Title I** is a federally funded program that helps students in reading/language arts or mathematics.
- **Dawson County Schools** offers Title I through schoolwide programs at the elementary school level. All Dawson County elementary schools are designated as schoolwide Title I schools.
- When many students at a school qualify for Title I services, a **schoolwide program** may be in place. Teachers, parents, and students plan and design a schoolwide program that helps all students become more successful learners.

Title I Learning

You may be wondering... What is so special about Title I? How is Title I learning different?

Our main goal is to increase student achievement. That is true in every Dawson County classroom, but Title I funding allows us to do some extra things for students who are in the Title I program. Here is how:

- Dawson County schools set the **same high standards** for everyone, and then provide **extra help** for students in Title I so they can reach those standards. When we expect more from children and give them the help they need, they are able to do more!
- Title I offers more **supplemental** academic attention. The extra focus really makes a difference.
- Title I provides **more learning time** and **different ways to learn**. We have found that children learn in different ways. Some students need a little bit more time. Title I teachers have the skills and resources to reach their students to increase learning.
- Title I gives schools and teachers **more flexibility** so they can make decisions to suit the needs of their students in Title I.

Parental Involvement

You are a valuable member of the teaching team.

Here are some ways that you can support your child's learning at home and can become a part of your child's learning at school:

- Attend the **Title I annual orientation meeting** at the beginning of the year. Ask questions and offer opinions.
- Support your child's **Learning Compact**. The school staff, the teacher, your child, and you must all be committed to your child's learning. The Learning Compact describes the responsibility we all share in helping your child reach those goals.
- **Visit your child's school** as often as you can. Help in the classroom. Join your child for lunch. Attend a special program in the evening. Read to the class. Your visits show both your interest and your support.
- Come to **special parent meetings**. They focus on ways you can support your child's learning.
- Check out **parent materials** – CDs, DVDs, magazines, books, and learning kits – that will help you help your child at home.
- Attend **parent/teacher conferences** and review the **progress reports** your child will bring home during the year.
- Participate in the **survey** at the end of the year. Let us know how we can improve.

Evaluation

How we measure student learning...

Evaluation is important to promote learning and to improve teaching. Different types of evaluation help measure what students know and can do. That information helps us make informed decisions about how to help students academically.

Student evaluation helps teachers to...

- identify **students who qualify** for Title I services,
- determine the **most effective strategies for teaching and learning** in the classroom,
- provide extra help in **reading/language arts or math**,
- decide on supplemental strategies that will help students meet state and local standards, and
- assist students in **monitoring their individual achievement**.

Title I evaluation is not a one-time review of student learning. It is an ongoing process guided by the following:

- We have **high expectations** for learning and continually **celebrate** our students as they make **progress** toward their learning goals.
- Evaluations help us **make improvements** in the program by helping to identify strengths and weaknesses in instruction and curriculum.
- The **Georgia Department of Education monitors the Title I program** via reports and visits to make sure our students are making acceptable progress.