

Welcome to the  
Title I Annual Meeting  
for Parents & Families  
2024 - 2025

Hickory Grove Elementary  
September 25, 2024



HICKORY GROVE  
WILD CATS

# Welcome Introductions

Matt Bower, Principal

Towanda Hammond, Assistant Principal

Monica Pitt, Assistant Principal

2

# Why are we here?

The *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*, as amended by the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* of 2015, requires that each Title I School hold an Annual Meeting for parents/families/community members for the purpose of:

- Informing you of your school's participation in Title I services
- Explaining the requirements of Title I, Part A
- Explaining your rights as parents to be engaged

# Meeting Overview

- What is a Title I school and what it means to be a Title I school
- Required Set-Aside for parent and family engagement
- The CMS Parent and Family Engagement Policy
- How the annual evaluation of the CMS Parent and Family Engagement Policy is conducted
- School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
- School Improvement Plan (SIP) in NCStar
- School-Parent Compact
- How to request the qualifications of my child's teacher(s)
- How parents will be notified if my child is taught by a teacher who is not deemed to be qualified by teacher licensing standards in the North Carolina ESSA Accountability Plan

# What is a Title I school?

Title I is the largest federally funded educational program. A Title I school is a school receiving federal funds for students. The basic principle of Title I is that schools with large concentrations of low-income students receive supplemental funds to meet students' educational goals.

# What does it mean to be a Title I School?

- Being a Title I school means receiving federal funding (Title I dollars) to supplement the school's existing programs. These dollars are used for the following:
  - Identifying students experiencing academic difficulties and providing timely assistance to help students meet the state's challenging content standards.
  - Purchasing supplemental staff/programs/materials/supplies
  - Conducting parent and family engagement meetings/trainings/activities
  - Recruiting/Hiring/Retaining Highly-Qualified Teachers
- Being a Title I school also means encouraging ongoing parent and family engagement and advocating for parents' rights

# How are Title I funds used in our school?

- *Family School Advocate*
- *Parent Involvement*
- *EC Teacher*
- *Substitutes for staff professional development*
- *(2) Behavior Modification Technicians*
- *(3) Differentials for Expanded Impact Teachers*
- *Supplies and materials (books, technology)*

# What is the 1% set-aside and how are parents involved?

- Any Local Education Agency (LEA) or school district with a Title I Allocation exceeding \$500,000 is required by law to set aside 1% of the Title I allocation for parent and family engagement.
- Of that 1%, 10% may be reserved at the LEA/district level for system-wide initiatives related to parent and family engagement. The remaining 90% must be allocated to all Title I schools in the district. In CMS, each Title I school receives its portion of the 90% to implement school-level parent and family engagement activities and events
- Title I parents have the right to provide input into decisions regarding how this money is spent. This process is completed through the School Improvement Team (SIT)



# Parent and Family Engagement Allocation

- How we are spending our Title I funds:
  - Title I funds are used to supplement positions deemed necessary for the benefit of student achievement
  - Title I funds are used to purchase school supplies/materials i.e. student pencils, erasers, notebooks, scissors, take-home folders, content folders, etc.

# What is the CMS Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

- This policy addresses how the district or LEA will implement the parent and family engagement requirements of the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*. It includes the following:
  - The district's expectations for parents
  - How CMS will engage parents in decision-making
  - How the district will work to build the schools' and parents' capacities in the implementation of effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement
- Parents and families in Title I schools have the right to be engaged in the review/evaluation of this annual policy

# What is the School Improvement Plan/NCStar Plan?

The School Improvement Plan (SIP) is created in an online platform called NCStar and includes:

- A Comprehensive Needs Assessment
  - Goals and Strategies to Address Academic Needs of Students
  - Professional Development Needs
  - Coordination of Resources and Comprehensive Budget
  - The School's Parent and Family Engagement Goals
- 
- Parents of students at Title I schools have the right to be engaged in the development of this plan
  - Access the SIP on our website: <https://www.indistar.org/app/SchoolDashboard.aspx>
    - User Name: **guests7099**
    - Password: **guests7099**

# What is included in the School's Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

- This policy addresses how the school will implement the parent and family engagement requirements of the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*. Components include the following:
  - How parents can be engaged in decision-making and activities
  - How parent and family engagement funds are being used
  - How information and training will be provided to parents
  - How the school will build capacity in parents and staff for strong parent and family engagement
- Parents of students at Title I schools have the right to be engaged in the development of the school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy

# What is the School Compact?

- The compact is a commitment from the school, the parent/family, and the student, to share in the responsibility for improved academic achievement
- Parents and families of students in Title I schools have the right to be involved in the revision/review of the School Compact

# Who are the parent leaders at my school?

Name

Email address

Victoria King

vlking26.vk@gmail.com

School's Title I Compliance Contact: Monica Pitt, Assistant Principal

# Volunteer Opportunities

- Join parent leadership groups such as PTO, PTA, PTSA, PTSA, booster clubs, etc.
- Become a member of the School Improvement Team and/or attend meetings
- Volunteer to contact other parents/families regarding important school information
- Attend academic events occurring at your child's school
- Participate in opportunities that support school activities
- Support Teacher appreciation activities
- Assist with class parties
- Attend parent conferences
- Tutor students
- Please call Ebony Northern, School Counselor at 980.343.6464 to- learn about volunteer opportunities

# How do I request the qualifications of my child's teachers?

- Title I parents and families have the right to request the qualifications of their child's teachers. The "Parent Right to Know" letter is linked to the school's website and contains the form to request the teacher's qualifications
- Option: <https://www.cmsk12.org/hickorygroveES>
- Requests should be completed by the school within 30 days.



# How will I be notified if my child is taught by a teacher who is not Highly-Qualified?

- Being Highly Qualified in NC means you have successfully passed the licensure exams required or received alternate licensure in a way set out by NC law.
- Parents and families are notified if teachers do not meet ESSA's requirements for Highly-Qualified
- Parents may request information on teacher qualifications in writing

# Parent Concerns or Questions?

- Should you have a question or concern, please first:
  - contact your child's teacher for answers/explanations
- If after speaking with your child's teacher, you still need further clarification or still have existing concerns:
  - contact our front office secretary at 980.343.6464 to share your concern and she will direct you to the most appropriate staff member to support you
- If you desire direct contact with a school administrator, the emails are below:
  - Principal - [matthewa.bower@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:matthewa.bower@cms.k12.nc.us)
  - Assistant Principal - [towandam.smith@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:towandam.smith@cms.k12.nc.us)
  - Assistant Principal - [monica1.pitt@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:monica1.pitt@cms.k12.nc.us)

# North Carolina Standard Course of Study

- The full North Carolina Standard Course of Study (NCSCOS) can be viewed using the link below:  
<http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/curriculum/>
- For more information about the NCSCOS and professional development at your school site, **please reach out to Ms. Hammond, Assistant Principal at [towandam.smith@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:towandam.smith@cms.k12.nc.us)**

# Some Schools Have an Additional Designation

- NCDPI will notify schools as to whether they have a special designation of ATSI or CSI in November of each year. You can skip this slide and the next two until notification from NCDPI or if not relevant to your school.
- The Every School Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires each state to have a plan to measure student achievement annually
- The plan outlines how each state is being held accountable
- Title I schools can receive an additional designation based upon state End-of-Grade or End-of-Course assessments

Link to the North Carolina State Plan under ESSA:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/succeeds/>

# Additional School Designations

- Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI)- subgroup gap (if applicable)
- Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)-lowest performing 5% of schools or low graduation rate (if applicable)
- Schools with these designations remain in this status for 3 years

# Proud Points

- Hickory Grove consistently builds a culture of caring, support, and focus on academic growth. As a result we experienced growth in each subgroup in literacy and math
- Hickory Grove has strong community partnerships with the Hickory Grove community and faith-based organization. They provide varied support for our students and staff including, but not limited to: weekend food bags for students, winter coats, and bookbags/supplies

# Thank you for being here!

- Questions? Email **Monica Pitt**,  
**Assistant Principal** at  
[monica1.pitt@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:monica1.pitt@cms.k12.nc.us) or  
call her at school **980.343.6464**