

**Lexington County School District 2**

Title One Information 2017-2018

**PURPOSE OF TITLE I**

Title I of the Every Student Succeeds Act legislation is a federal program that provides opportunities for the children served to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to meet challenging state content standards. Title I resources are distributed to schools where needs are the greatest, in amounts sufficient to make a difference in the improvement of instruction. Title I coordinates services with other educational services and, to the degree possible, with health and social services programs. Title I provides greater decision-making authority and flexibility within the schools and for teachers. However, greater responsibility for student performance is the exchange made for this flexibility.

**Title I Participation**

School participation in the Title One Program is based on poverty. The source data used for poverty determination is free and reduced lunch and the average daily membership on the 135th day of school.

**Title One School Plans**

Title One school plans are available for review in the school offices or at the district office. The plan for district level set aside funding is available at the district office. If you would like to be a part of the school Title One planning team or just sit in on a meeting, please contact the principal. If you would like to do the same at the district level, the district Title One planning team will be meet February 8 at Congaree Elementary and May 3 in the Teal Room at the District Education Center, both meetings at 4:00.

All of our Title One schools use a school wide model. Each Title One school conducts a comprehensive needs assessment and implements reform strategies that provide opportunities for all children to meet the State's performance standards. The schools' administrations, with help from the district's Human Resources and Instruction Divisions, hire staff that provide high quality instruction. The staff receives sustained professional development at the school and district levels. The schools conduct activities to increase parent involvement and provide assistance to them as students transition from grade to grade. Teachers are included in decisions about assessments and conduct activities that ensure students with learning difficulties receive assistance.

**Parent Involvement Policy and School-Parent Compact**

Each Title One school is required to ask for input from parents regarding the development of a parent involvement policy and a school-parent compact. The parent involvement policy explains how the school plans to work with parents to review and improve parent programs and how parents can participate in planning these programs. The school-parent compact outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the way in which the school and parents will build and achieve the State's high standards.

The *Every Student Succeeds Act* (replaced *No Child Left Behind and SC's waivers*) requires that a district use a portion of their Title One funds to support parent involvement activities. Parents may contact Debbie Gunter at 739-4041 about the district's parent involvement expenditures. Schools submit a plan to the district outlining how they intend to spend the funds. Lexington Two strives to involve parents, in an organized, ongoing and timely way, in the planning, review and improvement of programs. We provide parents with explanations of the school's overall student achievement and their child's individual test results. Curriculum and standards information, the assessments used to measure student progress and the ability levels students are expected to meet can be found on the district's website at this link <http://www.lex2.org/departments/instruction> as well as in school and classroom newsletters and school websites and teacher pages. There are a number of opportunities for parents to participate in their child's education through Superintendent-Parent Cabinet, PTO, School Improvement Council, School Board meetings, and school curriculum nights. We are always open to new ideas. If you have a suggestion you believe would make our schools even better, please let us know. You can let us know your thoughts by writing a note in your child's agenda, e-mailing your child's teacher, calling the school offices, or contacting Debbie Gunter, Title I Director at 739-4041.

### **Title One Expenditures**

The following are some of the activities included in the schools' Title I plans that were jointly developed by the members of the schools' Title I planning teams:

- Computer Assisted Instruction.
- Staff to assist with small group instruction.
- Innovative instruction and learning techniques.
- Instructional materials that assist in increasing achievement in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies.
  - Technology integration in instruction.
- Intervention programs providing differentiation of instruction to small groups.
  - Before, during, and after school tutoring opportunities.
  - Ongoing professional development for faculty and staff.
- Field trips aligned to the SC College and Career Ready Standards.
  - Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports
- Staff to provide instructional coaching to teachers

### **Parents' Right to Know**

Under the *Every Student Succeeds Act* you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct your child. Please contact Human Resources at 796-4706 for this information.

### **Title One Focus Schools**

BC #1 and Saluda River Academy for the Arts are designated as Focus schools. This means that there is a significant gap in the academic achievement within certain subgroups of students. For BC #1 and Saluda River the gaps exist for African Americans, students receiving free and reduced lunch, students with

disabilities, and students with limited English proficiency. To narrow the gaps the schools have put into place small group instruction, technology integration, higher levels of questioning, and sustained professional development for teachers and staff.

### **S.C. Department of Education Complaint Resolution Procedures**

The State Department of Education has the authority to hear complaints and appeals regarding certain federal programs and requires school districts to distribute the following information concerning the S.C. Department of Education's complaint resolution procedures:

- Organizations or individuals may file a complaint that applies to Title I within thirty days of receiving the decision by the school district or group of districts.
- Complaints and appeals must be made in writing and they must contain a statement indicating the violation, the facts on which the statement is based, and the specific requirement of law or regulation allegedly violated. Complaints and appeals must be filed with the State Superintendent of Education at the SC Department of Education, 1429 Senate Street, Columbia, SC 29201.
- The SDE will confirm receipt of the complaint within ten business days and will conduct an investigation to determine the merits of the complaint. The Deputy Superintendent will issue a final decision regarding the complaint within 60 days, except under exceptional circumstances that warrant an extension.
- The final decision of the SDE may be appealed to the Secretary of the US Department of Education.