

TITLE I NEWSLETTER

CURRICULUM, ACCOUNTABILITY, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & GRANTS



Hello from our **Title I** staff. We would like to take this time to introduce ourselves and welcome you into our Title I program.

We are again committed to making this school year the best for your children. We encourage you to remain involved in your child's education, both inside and outside of the classroom. Your involvement will help your sons and daughters be more successful now and in the future.

Teachers play a critical role of teaching knowledge and skills, but children's attitudes toward school and their habits of studying, reading and learning, are largely developed at home.

Studies have consistently linked parental involvement with higher student grades and test scores, more positive student attitudes and behaviors, and improved school environments. There are many ways to be involved with your child's learning. This includes not only establishing routine homework habits but also:

- Supporting school and Title I extra-curricular activities.
- Communicating with your child's teacher regularly, by writing notes, telephoning the school, etc.
- Keeping your child's teacher informed about events in your child's life which may affect his/her performance at school.
- Discussing with your child's teacher and parent organizations other ideas for parent involvement.
- Make sure your child attends school regularly and arrives on time.

Short Notes

Stay in touch with your child's school by keeping phone numbers of teachers, the school counselor, and the school office handy. You might post a list on the refrigerator or a bulletin board. Look for our Title I contact number on the back of this newsletter

So again, welcome back. We pledge to work tirelessly on behalf of your children enrolled in the Ware Public Schools. Please join us in this pledge so that

What is Title I?

Title I is the largest federal aid program for elementary, middle, and high schools. It serves millions of children in elementary and secondary schools each year. Through Title I, the Federal government gives money to school districts around the country based on the number of low-income families in each district. Each district uses its Title I money for extra educational services for children who are experiencing difficulty with reading and/or mathematics in order that they may be successful in the regular classroom.



What Does Title I Support & Pay For?

Some of the items include:

- **Assessment Testing**
- **Professional Staff**
- **Reading Interventionist**
- **Literacy Consultant**
- **Paraprofessionals**
- **Before and After School Tutoring in grades 3-6**
- **Classroom Curriculum Supplies**
- **Family and Community Outreach Events**
- **Professional Development training for Teachers, Administrators, and Staff**
- **Computer and Technology upgrades**

IMPORTANT PARENT NOTIFICATIONS: KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

PARENTS RIGHT TO KNOW



The Federal *No Child Left Behind Act* of 2001 requires school districts that receive federal Title I funding to notify parents of their right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct their child.

As a recipient of these funds, both **Ware Middle School (WMS) and Stanley M. Koziol Elementary (SMK)** will provide you with this information in a timely manner if you request it. Specifically, you have the right to request the following information about each of your child's classroom teachers:

- Whether the teacher meets the state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.

- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status because of special circumstances.
- The teachers' college major, whether the teacher has any advanced degrees, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if so, their qualifications.

Both Ware Middle School and Stanley M. Koziol Elementary are committed to providing quality instruction for all students and does so by employing the most qualified individuals to teach and support each student in the classroom.

If you would like to receive any of the information listed above for your child's teacher, please

contact **John Jorden, WMS Principal, at 413-967-6903 or Mark Aucoin, SMK Principal at 413-967-6236.**

For additional information about the federal highly qualified teacher requirements and Massachusetts policies related to them, please visit the Massachusetts Department of Education's website at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/apa/titlei/esea/>

Notification to Parents of Teacher Qualifications – Compliance with P.L. 107-110, Section 1111 (h) (6) (A)

If you wish to have a copy of this notice in Spanish, please contact Jan Yardley at 967-6903 x159.

Si desea que esta carta en Español, es posible. Llame a la escuela.



HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS

On January 8, 2002, President Bush signed the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 into law. The law brought sweeping changes to public schools throughout the nation. One of these changes requires that any school in receipt of Title I funds must now inform parents if their child is assigned a teacher for four or more consecutive weeks who is not yet "highly qualified" under the terms and criteria outlined in the Act.

According to the No Child Left Behind law, a **"highly qualified" teacher** is one who:

- ⇒ Has obtained a Bachelor's degree or higher;
- ⇒ Has obtained full State certification - in Massachusetts this means that the teacher has either a preliminary, initial, or professional teaching license; **and**
- ⇒ Has demonstrated competency in the core academic subject area(s) that he/she teaches.

For additional information about the federal highly qualified teacher requirements and Massachusetts policies related to them, please contact your school or visit the Massachusetts Department of Education's website at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/apa/titlei/esea/>



OFFICE OF ACCOUNTABILITY & TITLE I

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A good night's

sleep is linked to school success

Studies prove that even one more hour of sleep can help your child do better in school. His brain will work better. He'll be more alert and able to pay attention. He'll remember material with greater accuracy.

To help your child get the recommended 10 hours of sleep each night:

- Follow a schedule. Try to have the same times for meals and snacks; homework; games, TV and other recreation; and bedtime.
- Get your child active and outdoors. Exercise and fresh air help kids sleep better.
- Create a bedtime routine. Brush teeth, take a bath, put on pajamas and read a brief story. Review something positive from the day. Then, lights out.
- Make your child feel safe. Put a night light in his room, if necessary. Leave his door slightly open. Tell him you'll check on him periodically.

Source: Sommers-Flanagan, Problem Child or Quirky Kid: A Commonsense Guide, Free Spirit Publishing.

