

Parent Involvement Opportunities

Parent engagement opportunities offered this year:

- Wheel of Standards game at the Fall Festival - 10:00am - 2:00pm
- Title 1 Family Night where we will explore literacy standards through a Social Studies based live performance! - November 17, 2016 @ 6:30pm
- Title 1 Family Night where we will explore literacy and math standards with fun LEGO Math activities! - January 24, 2017 @ 6:00pm
- Title 1 Family Event exploring Literacy while celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday! - March 2, 2017 @ TBD
- National Family Engagement Month - November 2016

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Attend volunteer orientation in September
- Help out teachers and staff by volunteering in the Family Resource Center
- Join the school's PTO
- Attend the school's Title 1 Family Engagement Advisory Team meetings and the District Parent Advisory Council meetings

Thank you for attending our Title 1 Annual Meeting! We welcome your comments and suggestions. If you have questions or concerns about the Title 1 program and how Title 1 money is spent, please talk to the Parent Involvement Coordinator or Principal. Please complete an evaluation before you leave this evening!

- Testing in Georgia
- Components of a Title 1 Schoolwide Program
- School Policy and County Policy Trifold
- Georgia Standards of Excellence
- How to Communicate with Your Child's Teacher
- Title 1 Budget
- Compacts
- Input Card



Graysville Elementary School

Kerri Sholl, Principal

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Title 1 Annual Parent Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 1, 2016

6:45pm & 7:45pm

Welcome parents and community members! We are glad to welcome you to our school's Title 1 Annual Parent Meeting. This evening, we will be reviewing and discussing our school's Title 1 program. We will cover the following items that are important to you as parents:

What is a Title 1 school?

Title 1 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) provides financial assistance to state and local education agencies to meet the needs of at-risk children. The goal of Title 1 is to provide instructional services and activities which support students in meeting the state's challenging performance standards.

Title 1 Money

How does our school spend Title 1 money and how does our school participate in the Title 1 program? Title 1 programs generally offer:

- Smaller classes or special instructional spaces
- Additional teachers and paraprofessionals
- Opportunities for professional development for school staff
- A variety of supplementary teaching methods
- An individualized program for students
- Additional teaching materials which supplement their regular instruction
- Technology
- Parent involvement in children's education

At Graysville Elementary we use our Title 1 money to:

- Provide learning materials through technology resources
- Provide parent involvement activities and services
- Employ the services of an academic coach and reading and math interventionist
- Employ the services of an intervention paraprofessional

Title 1 and Parent Involvement

What is required by law for parent involvement?

School systems must ensure that strong strategies are in place to:

- Build capacity in parents as partners
- Share and support parents in attaining high student achievement

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring that:

- (a) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- (b) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education
- (c) Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, when appropriate, in decision-making as well as being a part of the advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.
- (d) Policies that are jointly developed with parents guide what we do in parental involvement. Check out the Catoosa County Parent Involvement Policy and the Graysville Elementary Family Engagement Policy. We welcome your recommendations on these policies at any time. A copy of the GES Policy was sent home the first week of school.
- (e) Each Title 1 school jointly develops a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

**This school year, parent involvement money is being spent to:

- *Fund a part-time parent involvement coordinator
- *Maintain the Family Resource Center



Is my child's teacher highly qualified?

As a Title 1 school, we must meet federal regulations related to teacher qualifications as defined by ESEA. These regulations allow you to learn more about your child's teachers' training and credentials. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject 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
- You may also ask whether your child received help from a paraprofessional, and information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

All teachers at Graysville Elementary School are highly qualified in the content area they are teaching, meeting Title 1 regulations. If you have any questions about the above, please contact Kerri Sholl at 706-937-3147 or email her at ksholl.ges@catoosa.k12.ga.us.

How responsive will the school be to my questions when staff is contacted?

Parents are always welcome to contact their child's teacher or administrators through the school website (www.ges.catoosa.k12.ga.us), email, phone calls and written notes.

How do parents lodge complaints?

Parents should bring school complaints to the school principal. There is a procedure to address your concerns. Parents should bring Title 1 complaints to Gina Haynes, Catoosa County Schools Title 1 Coordinator. She may be contacted at 706-965-2297 or ghaynes@catoosa.k12.ga.us

Title 1 Schoolwide Requirements and Goals

GES is a Title 1 schoolwide program. What are our school's Title 1 schoolwide requirements?

The purpose of schoolwide Title 1 programs is to improve the entire educational program in a school. This should result in improving the academic achievement of all students, particularly the lowest achieving students. See the handout on Schoolwide Components. We always want your input on how GES can carry out the schoolwide program.

What are our schoolwide goals?

- Increase the percentage of students who score in the developing learner or better categories in ELA by five percentage points on the GA Milestones.
- Increase the percentage of students who meet the grade level stretch band (Lexile score) by five percentage points on the GA Milestones

What programs/supports are in place to help my child?

- Reading and math interventionist
- Computer and technology software to support reading and math instruction
- Reading intervention paraprofessional

*Student progress will be monitored throughout the school year. Interventions will be provided for students who do not master all the elements of the standard during the school day and after school.



Designation Status

What is our school's Designation Status and what does this status mean?

Under the 2015 renewal of Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver, certain Title 1 schools continue to be designated as Reward, Priority, or Focus Schools. I am very proud to tell you that Graysville Elementary School has been given a designation status of Reward School this year, which means we are a Title 1 school that is continuing to provide a quality education to all of our students. Based on the definition of Reward Schools found in the ESEA Flexibility Waiver, the High-Progress Reward Schools are among the highest 10 percent for the Title 1 schools in the state. Calculations to identify these schools are based on the achievement of the "all students" group in terms of proficiency, on the statewide assessments that are part of the SEA's differentiated recognition, accountability, and support system.

The major strengths we found in our program were that 92% of all students in grades 3, 4, and 5 passed the mathematics portion of the test. In 3rd and 5th grades, 84% of students passed English Language Arts. The major needs we discovered were in 4th grade English Language Arts, where only 71% of students passed and only 31% of SWD passed. Please refer to our Schoolwide Plan for more details.

We are very excited to see great results and are very proud of our students and our teachers. We appreciate the support that you have given to our school. Our goal is to make sure that all students are successful and working on grade level as quickly as possible.

If you would like a copy of our Progress Report, you may obtain it online at www.doe.k12.ga.us, or at our school website, www.ges.catoosa.k12.ga.us. You may also pick up a copy in the school office. If you have any questions please contact Kerri Sholl at 706-937-3147.



What about Curriculum and Tests?

Catoosa County Schools use the state adopted standards as the basis of curriculum. Currently, the adopted curriculum is the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE). These standards provide clear expectations for instruction, assessment, and student work. Teachers are encouraged to use instructional frameworks which include an opening, work session, and closing for delivery of instruction. Pacing guides and curriculum units called "frameworks" are some of the resources used to support the implementation of the Georgia Standards of Excellence. These standards provide a consistent framework to prepare students for success in college and/or the 21st century workplace. Resources can be found online at www.georgiastandards.org.

Students in grades three through twelve take the Georgia Milestones assessment. Instruction is centered on the Georgia Standards of Excellence. At the Elementary level, third and fourth grade students take ELA and Math. Fifth grade students take ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

Students will also take a reading and math benchmark test three (3) times a year using the STAR programs.

The purposes of the Georgia Student Assessment Program are to measure student achievement relative to the state-mandated content standards, to identify students failing to achieve mastery of content, to provide teachers with diagnostic information, and to assist school systems in identifying strengths and weaknesses in order to establish priorities in planning educational programs. The assessment program includes customized criterion-referenced tests at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. See the Student Testing in Georgia handout.

Georgia Milestones relies on the Georgia Student Growth Model (GSGM) initiative designed to provide students, parents, educators, and the public with important information on student progress. Academic achievement only tells part of the story. The addition of student growth tells a more complete story about the academic performance of students. Now we not only know where students end up, but we also know how much progress they made to get there. This is an exciting time for students and their parents!