

**CATOOSA COUNTY  
TITLE I ANNUAL  
MEETING  
INFORMATION**

**What is a Title I school?**

Title I of the Every Student Succeeds Act provides financial assistance to state and local educational agencies to meet the needs of at-risk children. The goal of Title I is to provide instructional services and activities which support students in meeting the state's challenging performance standards.

**What are the Title I schoolwide requirements?**

The purpose of schoolwide Title I 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.



**What is a parent's right to know?**

You have the right to request information about your child's teachers' training and credentials. The following information may be requested:

Whether the teacher met the Georgia Professional Standards Commission requirements for certification for the grade level and subject area in which the teacher provides instruction;

Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or other provisional status through which Georgia qualifications or certification criteria have been waived;

What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration; and

Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

Please rest assured that our staff is committed to helping your child reach his or her maximum academic potential throughout their school career. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers and paraprofessionals are highly skilled and delivering quality instruction to your child.

**Is my child's teacher highly qualified?**

As a Title I 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.

**How do our schools spend Title I money and how do they participate in the Title I program?**

Title I schools 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

**What curriculum does Catoosa County Schools use?**  
Catoosa County Schools uses the state adopted standards or as the basis of curriculum. Currently the adopted curriculum is the Georgia Standards of Excellence. These standards provide clear expectation for instruction, assessment, and student work. Teachers are expected to use Instructional Frameworks which include an Opening, Work Session, Closing for the 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.

**What tests will my child be taking and what do these measure?**

Students in grades three through twelve take the Georgia Milestones assessment. Instruction is centered on the Georgia Standards of Excellence.

Georgia Milestones rely 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 ended up, but we also know how much progress they made to get there. This is an exciting time for students and their parents. See the Student Testing in Georgia handout.



**What is required by law for parent and family engagement?**

School systems must :

- ▷ 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 and 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 at school.
- (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. We welcome your recommendations on these. Get your copy before you leave this meeting.
- (e) Each Title I 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. If you haven't given input about the school-parent compact, do that before you leave this meeting.

