

## NCLB and ORSPS Title I Paraprofessionals

Para professionals or instructional assistants are crucial and a valuable part of our educational community. Under NCLB, Title I paraprofessionals must be highly qualified as defined by passing a competency test, earned an associate's degree or higher, or completed two or more years of higher education. All of the paraprofessionals at Oak Ridge Schools' Preschool are highly qualified under NCLB. You have the right to request information about the paraprofessionals that may work with your child. The school office can provide you with paraprofessional qualifications when requested.

### Federal Programs

Oak Ridge Schools' Preschool receives federal funding for participation in the following programs:

**Title I:** Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged  
**Head Start:** Providing quality early education for economically disadvantaged  
**IDEA:** Individuals with Disabilities Education Act  
Tennessee Governors Pre-K program (One of our funding sources, not a federal program)

Oak Ridge Schools' Preschool affirms that we comply with Title VI and the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Title VI states:

“No person in the United States shall, on the basis of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal Financial Assistance.”

Anyone who believes Oak Ridge Schools' Preschool program has discriminated against them or another individual may file a complaint. The complaint should be directed to:

Paula Gaddis,  
Title VI Coordinator for the  
Tennessee Department of Education

and/or;

United States Department of Education  
Office of Civil Rights  
400 Maryland Ave., SW  
Washington, DC 20202-1100  
Phone: 1-800-421 3481  
TDD: 1-877-521 2172  
Fax: 1 202 245 6840  
EMAIL: OCR@ed.gov

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## OAK RIDGE SCHOOLS' PRESCHOOL

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“Where Oak Ridge Schools'  
Excellence Begins”

No Child Left Behind  
Parent Information



Dr. Bruce Borchers,  
Director of Schools

304 New York Ave.  
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

(865) 425-9000 Central Office  
(865) 425-9101 Director of Federal  
Programming

<http://www.ortn.edu>

## **NCLB and Oak Ridge Schools’ Preschool**

ORSPS receives federal funding under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). During the school year, we will provide you with important information regarding this law.

### **NCLB and ORSPS Teachers**

NCLB requires that all teachers hired to teach in early childhood education be highly qualified. A highly qualified teacher is one with a full teaching certification, a bachelor’s degree, and competence in subject knowledge and teaching. At ORSPS, 100% of our academic teachers are highly qualified as defined by NCLB. Parents and Guardians have the right to request information regarding their child’s teachers’ qualifications. Upon your request, our office can provide you information on whether a teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status, and the degree major of a teacher and any other graduate degree or certification the teacher has earned.

NCLB mandates that all newly hired teachers must be highly qualified. In the event that ORSPS must employ a non-highly qualified teacher for four or more consecutive weeks, the parents of the students receiving instruction from this teacher will be notified promptly in writing by the schools’ administration. Every effort will be made to ensure that your child is taught by competent, highly qualified professionals.

## **NCLB and Parent Involvement**

Under NCLB and Title I, you have the right to be involved in your child’s education. At Oak Ridge Schools’ Preschool, all parents have the opportunity to be involved in every aspect of the program through policy, committee, parent training, classroom volunteers, and special events as well as participating in home visits and parent conferences. The Parent Involvement Policy is in the parent handbook given every year and is available in the school office. If you have any questions or comments regarding parent involvement you can contact The Preschool or Dr. Bruce Borchers at Central Office. If you have concerns regarding your child’s education, please contact your child’s teacher or call the office to make an appointment for further discussion.

### **Oak Ridge Schools’ Preschool “Schools-wide” Status**

Oak Ridge Schools’ Preschool is designated as a “school-wide” Title I school. This means that ORSPS may consolidate and use Title I funds together with other federal, state, and local allocations in order to upgrade the educational program for all students at ORSPS.



## **NCLB and AYP**

No Child Left Behind requires each state to define “Adequate Yearly Progress” (AYP) for school districts and schools. Tennessee has determined a level of achievement that we must attain each year to make AYP. Student achievement is based upon our students’ scores from T-CAP and other tests administered annually in our system. Our system is in “Good Standing.” We will inform you of our schools’ AYP status annually after being received from the Tennessee Department of Education. Please consult your school or visit the website for detailed information about our academic progress. This report is also published annually in the local newspaper.

ORSPS assesses the children 3 times a year with the Brigance (a standardized instrument) in accordance with state and federal guidelines for early education.

### **Additional Information**

If you would like additional information about No Child Left Behind or any of the consolidated federal programs at our school, Please us at 864-425-9101.

### **Students with Disabilities**

Any student with a disability who wishes to participate in the program should contact The Preschool for information about receiving educational services and auxiliary aids needed to facilitate participation.