
2022-2023

Annual Title I Meeting

Homer Iddings Elementary

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

Michelle Coughlin

Why are we here?

- The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that each Title I school hold an annual meeting of Title I families in order to:
 - inform you of your school's participation in Title I,
 - explain the requirements of Title I
 - explain your rights as parents and family members to be involved.

What will I learn?

- What is a Title I school?
- What are my rights?
- What can Title I funds be used for?
- How does our school use Title I funds?
- What is the SIP?
- What are our schoolwide program goals?
- What curriculum does our school use?
- What tests will my child be taking?
- What goals should my child meet?
- What is the Family Engagement Policy?
- What is the School-Parent Compact?
- How can I be involved?
- Who can I contact for help?
- What can I do at home?
- Who is our Social worker and what resources do they provide?
- Who is our FACES representative and what resources do they provide?

What is a Title I school?

- Title I was passed in 1965 under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). It is the largest federal assistance program for our nation's schools.
- Title I schools receive extra funding (Title I dollars) from the federal government. These dollars are used to:
 - identify students experiencing academic difficulties and provide assistance to help these students;
 - purchase additional staff, programs, materials, and/or supplies; and
 - conduct parent and family engagement meetings, trainings, events, and/or activities.

What are my rights?

- The families of Title I students have a right, by law, to:
 - be involved in decisions made at both the school and district level;
 - be provided with information on your child's level of achievement on tests
 - request and receive information on the qualifications of your child's teacher and paraprofessionals who are working with your child. Information on how to request qualifications can be found on the district Title I page <https://www.mvsc.k12.in.us/Administration2/title1>
 - request opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of your child.

What can Title I funds be used for?

- In general, Title I funds may be used for:
 - smaller class sizes,
 - additional teachers and paraprofessionals,
 - additional training for school staff,
 - extra time for instruction (before and/or after school, summer programs),
 - parent and family engagement activities, and/or
 - a variety of supplemental teaching materials, equipment, and technology.

How does our school use Title I funds?

- We developed a **Schoolwide Program**, which means we plan to spend our funds on the following:
 - Supplemental staff:
 - Paraprofessional
 - Programs/Materials/Supplies: Leveled Literacy Intervention Kits, Digital Guided reading ebooks, skill based instructional games and resources
 - Please note that the district DOES offer supports in these areas, using ESSER stimulus funds
 - Additional teachers and paraprofessionals,
 - Additional training for school staff
 - Extra time for instruction (before and/or after school, summer programs)

What is the SIP?

- The SIP is the School Improvement Plan. It includes:
 - the identification of the school planning team and how they will be engaged in the planning process;
 - a needs assessment and summary of academic and non-academic data;
 - prioritized goals, strategies, and action steps to help address the academic and non-academic needs of students;
 - teacher and staff professional development needs; and
 - budgets and the coordination of resources.
- You, as a Title I family member, have the right to be involved in the development of these plans.
- Our school improvement plan can be found here:
[Homer Iddings 22-23 School Improvement Plan](#)

What are our schoolwide program goals?

- Our ELA goal for this school year is for each grade level to achieve at least 55% of students on or above grade level when taking the final iReady diagnostic test.
- Our Math goal for this school year is for each grade level to achieve at least 45% of students on or above grade level when taking the final iReady diagnostic test.
- Our attendance goal for this school year is to consistently use multiple forms of data to monitor attendance and follow the MCSC attendance protocols, so that the student attendance rate will reach 95%.
- Our behavior goal for this year is to implement PBIS initiatives and Restorative Practices to increase the number of positive referral telephone calls by 5%. For the 2022 - 2023 school year, the positive referral goal is 230.

What curriculum does our school use?

- The Indiana Academic Standards provide a common set of expectations for what students will know and be able to do at the end of a grade for each subject area.
- Indiana's Academic Standards form the framework for everything taught at Homer Iddings Elementary School.
- The school's curriculum maps can be found on the Curriculum and Instruction page <https://www.mvsc.k12.in.us/Administration2/10>
- For more information about Indiana's Academic Standards, see: <https://www.in.gov/doe/students/indiana-academic-standards/>

What tests will my child be taking?

- Students will take the IREADY Diagnostic test to monitor their growth three times a year (beginning, middle and end).

EOY IREADY Math Target

Grade K: Math 412
Grade 1: Math 455
Grade 2: Math 497
Grade 3: Math 507
Grade 4: Math 517

EOY IREADY Reading Target

Grade K: Reading 424
Grade 1: Reading 480
Grade 2: Reading 537
Grade 3: Reading 561
Grade 4: Reading 603

- SAVVAS Baseline (ELA) and Readiness (MATH) - all grades
 - *Spring Goal for all students is 70% or higher on both tests.*
- Cogat - Kindergarten, Second Grade, and Fourth Grade (test to identify for High Ability)
- IREAD - Third Grade
- ILEARN - Third and Fourth Grade

Family engagement

- We plan to use parent and family engagement funding funds for:
 - Family Engagement Meeting and Events
 - Annual Meetings (Today)
 - Family Fun Night (Date TBD)
 - Spring Family Event (Date TBD)

 - Materials/Supplies
 - Family Library Resources (All Year)
 - Kindergarten Welcome Packets
 - Reading resources and materials for use with students
 - Math resources and materials for use with students

What is a Family Engagement Policy?

- These plans address how the district and school will implement the parent and family engagement requirements of ESSA. Components include:
 - how parents and families can be involved in decision-making and activities;
 - how parent and family engagement funds are being used;
 - how information and training will be provided to families; and
 - how the school will build capacity in families and staff for strong parent and family engagement.
- The school and district Family Engagement Policy are shared through the annual online Verification of Information (VOI) process and can also be found here:
<https://www.mvsc.k12.in.us/Administration2/title1>
- You, as a Title I family member, have the right to be involved in the development of these plans.

What is a School-Family Compact?

- A school-family compact is a written commitment that outlines how the entire school community – teachers, families, and students will share the responsibility for improved academic achievement.
- The compact describes how the school will:
 - provide high-quality curriculum and instruction;
 - hold parent-teacher conferences
 - provide parents with reports on their child’s progress;
 - provide parents reasonable access to staff.
 - provide parents opportunities to volunteer; and
 - ensure regular two-way meaningful communication between family members and staff, to the extent practicable, in a language family members can understand.
- The Compact is shared through the annual online Verification of Information (VOI) process and can also be found here: <https://www.mvsc.k12.in.us/Administration2/title1>
- You, as a Title I parent or family member, have the right to be involved in the development of the compact.

How can I be involved?

- We need you! Research has proven that family engagement in education has more impact on student achievement than any other factor.
- To get involved with the School improvement plan, reach out to the building principal.
- To get involved with the review of family documents (Family Engagement Policy and School Parent Compact), join us at our spring family event.

How can I be involved?

- encourage attendance;
- monitor grades on Skyward and schoolwork that students bring home;
- attend family events and meetings (information for these events are sent home on flyers and posted on our school webpage, and social media pages);
- observe or volunteer in classrooms;
- join family groups and committees (e.g., PTO, advisory councils); and
- read school/classroom newsletters or websites and that contain examples of learning activities families can do with students at home.

Concern Procedures

- Written form to be completed by any individual or organization in the event that a federal or state law has been broken.
- Concerns directed first to teaching staff, then principal, then district
- [Form Link](#)

What activities can I do at home to help my child?

- Read, read, read! Studies show that students who read at least 20 minutes a day starting in Kindergarten will score better on tests than 90% of their peers.
- Some benefits of reading are enhanced brain activity, improved vocabulary, and critical thinking development, which is beneficial for every subject area.
- Practice age appropriate math facts. Students who know their math facts are able to solve more difficult problems quicker and more accurately, which helps build confidence in students' math ability.
- Playing games together as a family is fun, but also helps them to practice counting and reading.

Social Worker Resources

What does a school social worker do?

A school social worker provides services in a variety of ways to meet the needs of students in school. The role of the school social worker is to address barriers to education so the student can meet their full potential.

What kinds of topics might a student need to work with a school social worker on?

School social workers are involved in crisis intervention and brief treatment of short-term issues. Anything that impacts a child's school day is appropriate for a school social worker to address. The most common issues for students vary by grade. In elementary schools, students most likely work with a school social worker for behavioral struggles, specific skills such as self-regulation and conflict management, and social issues such as peer conflict or mediation.

Although school social workers are skilled to deal with a variety of issues that students may present with, not all issues should be handled in school. More serious concerns may be better served by community organizations and/or counseling agencies. Your school social worker will gladly provide information on these resources.

Social Worker Resources

What might parents reach out to the school social worker or family and community engagement specialist?

Parents can also reach out to the social worker or FACES staff if they have a need for food, housing, clothing, backpacks or school supplies, financial resources, counseling, therapy, or other assistance or resources.

Contact information:

Nicole Dominguez, LCSW, LSSW
School social worker
Homer Iddings Elementary
219-650-5423
ndominguez@mvsc.k12.in.us

FACES Resources

Family and Community Engagement Specialist

Under general supervision of the building administrator, the F.A.C.E representative provides services to increase family engagement at Homer Iddings Elementary School. By implementing various programs and overseeing activities related to the needs of students and families, our role helps meet overall school goals in the area of family involvement. With this, the ultimate goal is to increase student achievement.

The Family and Community Engagement Specialists provide specialized guidance with proactive engagement strategies, which promote student success; socially, behaviorally, and academically. This is done through effective and targeted family supports and interactions.

A F.A.C.E. representative is at work in every building in the Merrillville School Corporation connecting families with resources in the school, corporation, and the surrounding communities.

Renee Flynn

Family and Community Engagement Specialist

Homer Iddings Elementary School

219-650-6206

raflynn@mvsc.k12.in.us

Media Services: Family Resources/Check out

- Our Family Library resources are available for check out all year. The brochure includes a list of the available resources. You can arrange with our FACES representative to take a look at what's available and check out the resources you would like use.

Who can I contact for help?

- For general questions, call the front office at: (219)650-5302
- To reach the principal, Michelle Coughlin, call: (219)650-5302
- To reach the assistant principal, Victoria Patton, call: (219)650-5302
- To reach the dean of students, Amanda Aardsma, call: (219)650-5302
- To reach the school social worker, Nicole Dominguez, call: (219)650-5302
- To reach our FACES (Family and community engagement specialist), Renee Flynn, call: (219)650-5302
- To reach your child's teacher, call the front office or view our staff directory at:
[Homer Iddings School Website](#)

Questions and Survey

Your input is important! If you could please complete our survey, it will help us improve our school's family involvement activities.

WE JUST WANT TO SAY...

THANK YOU!