



# 2023-2024 Annual Title I & Family Engagement Meeting

Pond Gap Elementary

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**AT POND GAP  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, WE...**

- **CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE WHERE STUDENTS WANT TO BE AND WANT TO LEARN.**
- **CREATE A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT THAT IS ENGAGING, FUN, AND INSPIRES CURIOSITY.**
- **BUILD STRONG, POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY (STUDENTS, STAFF, FAMILIES, AND STAKEHOLDERS).**
- **USE EDUCATION AS A WAY TO EMPOWER OTHERS AND CHANGE THE WORLD.**

# 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 School Plan?
- What are our schoolwide program goals?
- How is parent and family engagement funded?
- What is the Parent and Family Engagement Policy?
- What is the School-Parent Compact?
- What curriculum does our school use?
- What tests will my child be taking?
- How can I be involved?
- Who can I contact for help?

# 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
  - conduct parent and family engagement meetings, trainings, events, and/or activities

# What are my rights?

- ▶ The families and parents 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 in reading/language arts, writing, mathematics, and science
  - Request and receive information on the qualifications of your child's teacher and paraprofessionals who are working with your child
  - Request opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of your child. The school is required to respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

# 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 programs)
  - parent and family engagement activities
  - a variety of supplemental teaching materials, equipment, and technology

# How does our school use Title I funds?

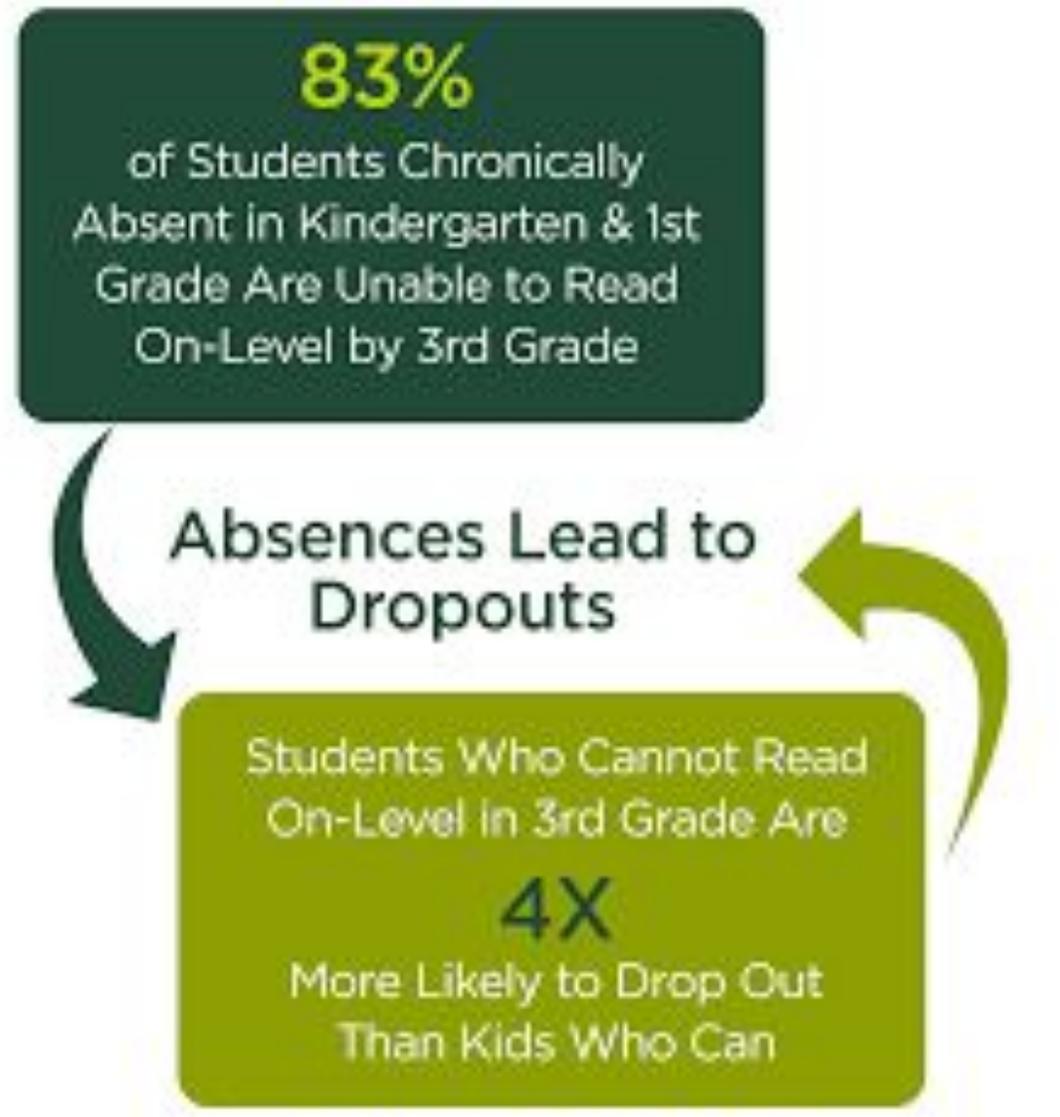
- ▶ In **2023-2024** our school was allotted approximately in Title I funding.
- ▶ We developed a **Schoolwide Program**, which means we plan to spend our funds on the following:
  - **Supplemental staff:**
    - 2 Additional Classroom Teachers: Kindergarten and Second Grade
    - Behavior Teacher
    - Instructional Coach
    - Educational Assistant
  - **Programs/Materials/Supplies:**
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# 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
  - budgets and the coordination of resources.
- ▶ The school must include family representatives on our school planning team.  
[Families must be involved in the SIP process, and the school can determine who is involved and does not have to include all families. It is, however, best practice to have family representation on the SIP team that reflects the population and diversity of the school community.]

# WHAT ARE OUR SCHOOLWIDE PROGRAM GOALS?

- REDUCE CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM
- INCREASE ACHIEVEMENT IN READING/LANGUAGE ARTS
- INCREASE ACHIEVEMENT IN MATH



# How is parent and family engagement funded?

- ▶ Any district with a Title I allocation exceeding \$500,000 is required by law to set aside 1% of its Title I allocation for parent and family engagement.
- ▶ Of that 1%, 10% may be reserved at the district for system-wide initiatives related to parent and family engagement. The remaining 90% must be allocated to all Title I schools in the district.
- ▶ You, as Title I parents and family members, have the right to be involved in how this money is spent.

# How is parent and family engagement funded?

- ▶ In 2023-2024, we received approximately \$3698.94 in parent and family engagement funding. We plan to use these funds for:
  - Parent and Family Engagement Meeting and Events
    - Big Oak and Sutherland Park Night
    - STEM Night
    - Literacy Night
  - Materials/Supplies
    - Games, Books, Refreshments

# What is a Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

- ▶ These plans address how the district and school will implement the parent and family engagement requirements of ESSA. Components should 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
  - how the school will build capacity in families and staff for strong parent and family engagement
- ▶ You, as a Title I parent or family member, have the right to be involved in the development of these plans.

# What is a Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

- ▶ The district Parent and Family Engagement Policy can be found here:
  - <https://www.knoxschools.org/Page/3371>
- ▶ The school Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be shared [insert date and method of distribution]. In addition, the policy can be found here:
  - <https://www.knoxschools.org/Page/3371>

# What is a School-Parent Compact?

- ▶ A school-parent 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 must describe how the school will:
  - provide high-quality curriculum and instruction
  - hold parent-teacher conferences, annually in elementary schools
  - provide parents with reports on their child's progress
  - provide parents reasonable access to staff
  - provide parents opportunities to volunteer
  - ensure regular two-way meaningful communication between family members and staff, to the extent practicable, in a language family members can understand
- ▶ You, as a Title I parent or family member, have the right to be involved in the development of the compact.

# What is a School-Parent Compact?

- ▶ The school-parent compact will be shared in paper form with the beginning of the year information. In addition, the compact can be found here:
  - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kuP3TAcvy0j2i-v30wgv5n-ty1ZfRqG1/edit?usp=sharing&oid=106217009882571052958&rtpof=true&sd=true>

# What curriculum does our school use?

- The Tennessee 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.
- Tennessee's academic standards form the framework for everything taught at **Pond Gap Elementary**
- For more information about Tennessee's academic standards, see:

<https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/education/instruction/academic-standards.html>

# What tests will my child be taking?

- Mastery View Assessment Fall and Spring
- Aimswebplus Benchmark Fall, Winter, Spring
- 3rd-5th TCAP Assessment

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# 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 SIP, contact Jessica Seaton, at [Jessica.seaton@knoxschools.org](mailto:Jessica.seaton@knoxschools.org) or 865-909-9040.
- To get involved with the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, contact Jessica Seaton, at [jessica.seaton@knoxschools.org](mailto:jessica.seaton@knoxschools.org) or 865-909-9040.
- To get involved with the School Parent Compact, contact Jessica Seaton, at [Jessica.Seaton@knoxschools.org](mailto:Jessica.Seaton@knoxschools.org) or 865-909-9040.