

Title I

Title I is the largest federal assistance program for our nation's schools. Conemaugh Township Elementary School operates a School-wide Title I program. The purpose of a Schoolwide Title I program is to assist schools in providing a quality educational experience that enables all learners to meet state standards. Schoolwide Title I funds are used to increase the quality of learning time and to provide an enriched curriculum for all children in order to achieve the program goals. Schools are required to include parental/guardian input in planning and implementing the Title I program as this type of communication and collaboration is critical to student success.

Right to Request Teacher Qualifications

Your child currently attends a school that receives funds from the Title I, Part A program. Title I, Part A is a federal supplemental program designed to help children reach high academic standards. In receiving funds from this program the district has a requirement to inform you, as a parent/guardian of a child attending a Title I school, of information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher. Your child has been taught for (time period-weeks) by a teacher who is not, under the definition of the No Child Left Behind legislation, "highly qualified". (For whatever reason-supply rationale) A highly qualified teacher is defined as a teacher that meets Pennsylvania's qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level or subject area in which the teacher is providing instruction.

Follow with statements which may contain the following information:

- Whether the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.
- Whether a teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status through which state-licensing criteria has been waived.
- The teacher's college major, whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
- Whether any instructional aides or similar paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

Conemaugh Township School District District Title I Parent Involvement Policy *(reviewed April 2016)*

The Conemaugh Township School District is committed to the belief that all children can learn and acknowledges that parents share the school's commitment to the educational success of their children.

The Conemaugh Township School District believes that the education of students is a joint responsibility that is shared by the parents/guardians. To ensure that the best interests of each student are served in the education process, a strong program of communication and cooperation between home and school must be maintained and parental involvement encouraged.

The Conemaugh Township School District feels that it is the parents/guardians who have the ultimate responsibility for their children's behavior in school, including the behavior of students who have reached the legal age of majority but are, for all practical purposes, under parental authority.

To this end, a written plan for Title I Parent Involvement that establishes programs and practices to enhance parent involvement and reflects the needs of students and families will be jointly developed by parents and school staff. The plan will provide a sense of direction for designing initial and ongoing activities.

The plan will also include a school-parent compact and support the development, implementation and regular evaluation of parent involvement program by parents. Implementation of the plan will be a priority of the school community.

1. The LEA, in consultation with parents, shall develop written policies to ensure that parents are involved in the planning, design and implementation of the program. The LEA must make the policies available to parents of participating children.
2. The LEA shall provide parents, where practical, with reports on their children's progress, conduct parent conferences, and make education personnel accessible to parents.
3. Opportunities for regular meetings to offer parental input will be provided by means of scheduled parent conferences during the year and annual meetings held in the fall and spring of each year.
4. Information regarding the program will be shared with parents by means of our district website, hand-outs, parent workshops, and the annual meetings.
5. Parents will be informed of parental involvement requirements and other relevant provisions by the annual meetings held in the fall and the spring of each year.
6. The LEA shall provide reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request (tutoring support, etc.).
7. The district, where possible, will provide information about programs, and activities in the language and form that parents can understand by means of explanations at meetings and parent mailings when needed.
8. The district will ensure that non-English speaking parents will be provided information on Title I and the progress of their children in a language or format they can understand.
9. Title I parent involvement activities will be coordinated with programs such as Head Start and other outside agencies.

Assessment of Parent Involvement: The LEA shall annually assess through consultation with parents, the effectiveness of the parental involvement program and determines what action needs to be taken, if any, to increase parental participation. Actions will be implemented for school improvement. The district will assess in the following manner: input of parents will be solicited at parent conferences and the annual meeting.

Conemaugh Township Elementary School
Title I Parent Involvement Policy
(reviewed April 2016)

The Conemaugh Township Elementary School believes that the education of children is a joint responsibility, one it shares with the parents of the school community. To ensure that the best interests of the child are served in this process, a strong program of communication between home and school must be maintained.

The Conemaugh Township Elementary School directs that the following activities be implemented to encourage parent-school cooperation:

- Parent-teacher conferences to permit two-way communication between home and school.
- "Meet the Teacher Night" to provide parents with the opportunity to see the school facilities, meet the faculty and sample the program on a first-hand basis. The Conemaugh Township Elementary School shall hold an open house at least annually.
- School-Parent Compact – Parents are given an opportunity to update the compact that is currently in place.
- Meetings of parents and staff members to explain and discuss matters of general interest with regard to child-school, child-home, or child-home-school relationships.
- Parents have access to Power Schools which will give them a daily update of their child's academic progress, daily assignments, attendance, and current lunch balance.

For the benefit of children, the Conemaugh Township Elementary School believes that parents have a responsibility to encourage their child's career in school by:

- Supporting the school in requiring that children observe all school rules and regulations, and by accepting responsibility for their children's willful in-school behavior.
- Sending children to school with proper attention to their health, personal cleanliness and dress.

- Maintaining an active interest in the student's daily work and making it possible for the student to complete assigned homework by providing suitable conditions for study.
- Reading all communications from the school, and signing and returning them promptly when required.
- Cooperating with the school in attending conferences to set up for the exchange of information on the child's progress in school.
- Participating in school activities and special functions.

Conemaugh Township Elementary
Title I Home/School Compact
(reviewed April 2016)

School Pledge:

We will

1. Treat each child with dignity and respect.
2. Monitor student progress and update parents regularly.
3. Make sure all students get help as soon as it's needed.
4. Explain our curriculum, expectations, and grading system to students and their families.
5. Continually work to improve teaching strategies so that we can successfully teach all children.
6. Make sure students understand their assignment and what they'll learn from it.

Family Pledge:

We will

1. Let the teacher know if our child has problems with learning.
2. Monitor assignments, and encourage homework completion.
3. Encourage positive attitudes about school.
4. Participate in decisions relating to the education of our child.
5. Make sure our child attends school regularly.

Student Pledge:

I will

1. Believe that I can and will learn.
2. Let my teacher and my family know if I need help.
3. Pay attention, participate, and ask questions in class.
4. Do my homework, and turn it in when it's due.
5. Be respectful to everyone.

Title I Complaint or Concern Procedure

Parents/guardians who have a complaint or concern about the Title I services their child is receiving should observe the following procedure:

- 1) Contact the person that you have a complaint about to discuss both sides of the story.
- 2) If the problem remains, contact the building principal.
- 3) If it is still unresolved, contact the superintendent.
- 4) Finally, if unresolved, ask the superintendent to place the complaint on the following month's Board of Education agenda for further discussion.

Notice of Homeless Education Program

The federal "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001" (NCLB) includes a provision to make sure that homelessness does not cause children to be left behind in school. Homeless children should have access to the education and other services that they need to meet the same challenging state academic achievement standards to which all students are held.

The Conemaugh Township School District is required to provide activities for and services to, homeless children, including preschool-age homeless children and youths, enabling them to enroll in, attend, and succeed in school or

preschool programs.

The law requires all school districts to inform parents or guardians of their rights under this provision of NCLB. Specifically, it states that, pending resolution of a dispute about school placement, a school district must immediately enroll a homeless student in the student's school of origin or other school selected on the basis of the child's best interest and provide a written explanation of the rights of appeal to the parent or guardian of the student.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Title I, please contact Mr. Thomas Kakabar, Superintendent and Federal Programs Coordinator (814-479-7575 /thomas.kakabar@ctasd.org).