

# Hamilton K-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Title 1 Frequently Asked Questions

## **What is Title 1?**

Title 1, Part A (Title 1) of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA), provides financial assistance to schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet state academic standards. Title 1 funds can be used for instructional activities, counseling, parental involvement, and program improvement. In return, school districts and states must meet accountability requirements for raising student performance.

## **How does my state and school district receive Title 1 dollars?**

Title 1 funds flow to states and school districts on a formula basis. The formula takes into account the number of low-income children and statewide average per pupil expenditures. Resources within the state are targeted to the districts and schools with the greatest need.

## **What services does Title 1 provide?**

Title 1 funds generally are used to improve academic achievement in reading and math, but the resources can be used to help students improve their achievement in all of the core academic subjects. Title 1 funds are flexible, and can be used to provide professional development for teachers; support hiring additional teachers and classroom aides; improve curriculum; enhance parent involvement; extend learning time for students who need extra help; and provide other activities that are tied to raising student achievement.

## **What does the term “Title 1 school-wide program” mean?**

A school that receives Title 1 dollars and that has a student enrollment in which more than half of the students are low-income is eligible to operate a “school-wide program.” A school-wide program requires a plan to improve academic achievement of all students in the school using Title 1 dollars on all of the students.

## **Which Hamilton R-II Schools receive Title 1 funding?**

Hamilton Elementary School and Hamilton Middle School are designated as Title 1 schools.

## **How have Title 1 dollars been used at Hamilton R-II?**

Title 1 dollars have been spent on hiring Title 1 Reading teachers at the Elementary and Title 1 Math teachers at the Middle School. Dollars have also been spent on professional

development, instructional resources, and technology improvement for the Elementary and Middle School.

### **How are parents involved in Title 1 at Hamilton R-II?**

Parents are asked to fill out a School-wide Needs Assessment survey each year. Parents are also invited to participate in an annual meeting to review the School-wide Title 1 plan; this meeting takes place in April each year. Parents are invited to attend parent involvement activities throughout the school year; these include Math and Science Night, Reading Week, Open House, parent-teacher conferences, and HES tailgate to name a few.

### **How can I learn more about the Title 1 Programs at Hamilton Elementary and Hamilton Middle School?**

To find out more, please reference the following documents: Parent Right to Know, Parent-Student-School Compact, 10 Components of Title 1 School-wide Program, ESEA 2015 Complaint Procedures. You may also visit the National Title 1 Association website at <http://www.titlei.org/> or contact Billie McGraw at 816.583.4811 to find out more.