# Annual Title I Back to School Night

## August 17, 2026

Lanier County Schools
2026-2027

# Why are we here?

**The Every Student Succeeds Act requires that all Title I Schools hold an Annual Meeting of Title I families for the purpose of…**

- Informing you of your school's participation in Title I.
- Informing you of school-wide status and school designation.
- Explaining the requirements of Title I.
- Explaining your rights as parents/families to be involved.

# What is Title I?

- **Purpose** – provides supplemental funding to support educators in improving the academic achievement of students who are economically and educationally disadvantaged.
- **Eligibility** – schools rank students need using multiple criteria and then provide support/services based on need.
- **Participation** - Schools are considered "School-wide" so any students in need are eligible for support/services.

**All schools in Lanier County are School-wide Title I Program schools.**

# How Does Lanier County Spend Title I Money?

*The District Comprehensive Needs Assessment process in the spring surveyed parents about how funds should be spent…which informed the district's budgeting*

- Personnel
- Intervention Programs & Services
- Instructional Supplies
- Technology
- Parent & Family Engagement (1% of the Title I Budget)
  - Parent & Family Engagement District Coordinator
  - Parent & Family Engagement Resource Center
  - Parent & Family Engagement Activities

# School Improvement Plans
# School-wide Plans

## The SIPs include:

- A Needs Assessment and Summary of Data
- Goals and Strategies to Address Academic Needs of Students
- Professional Development Needs
- Coordination of Resources/Comprehensive Budget
- Parent and Family Engagement Policy

**Title I parents, families, and community members have the right to be involved in the development of these plans. Opportunities for input are available to all stakeholders throughout the year.**

# LCES Improvement Plan Goals

**Goal 1**

LCES will increase the percentage of students reading at/above grade level by 5% based on GMAS (3-5) and Iready (K-2) lexile scores as compared to the FY26 scores.

# Parent and Family Engagement

## Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan

- Families are invited to participate in the development of policies/plans for Parent and Family Engagement for the district and school.
- Lanier County develops a Combined District & School Parent and Family Engagement Policy since there is only one school per grade span.
- Annual meetings are held throughout the year with parents and families.
- Parent and Family workshops, training sessions, and activities are held throughout the year.

# Parent and Family Engagement

## School-Parent-Student Compact

- The Compact is a commitment from the school, parent, and student to share in the responsibility for improved academic achievement.
- The Compact is jointly developed by parents, teachers, staff, and students.
- Input is gathered throughout the year at Parent and Family Engagement Meetings.
- The Compact is updated annually.

# Parent and Family Engagement

## Opportunities To Get Involved

- PFE Annual Title I meeting
- Open House
- School Improvement Team meetings
- PFE Team meetings
- Back to School Curriculum Night
- Classroom/School Wide activities: Book Fair,Reading Events, Family Picnics, Math/STEAM events, Grade level specific activities
- Parent Teacher Conferences

# Parent and Family Engagement

## Information Resources for Parents

- Parent & Family Engagement District Coordinator
  - Assist and support parents and families
  - Coordinates PFE events
- Parent Resource Room: located at LCES
- Parent Resource Stand: located at LCES

# Parents' Right to Know

## Professional Qualifications

- In compliance with ESSA requirements, the Lanier County School district notifies parents at the beginning of the school year of their right to know the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals.

## 20 Day Notifications

- Parents must also be notified if their child has been taught for 4 consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet applicable state or and/or local certification or licensure requirements.

**All teachers in Lanier County are Professionally Qualified.**

## English Learners

- In compliance with ESSA, the Lanier County School district notifies parents of participating English Learners (ELs) of their child's eligibility for federally funded supplemental language support programs. This notice also allows parents to waive participation in the Title funded services.

# Complaint Procedures

**Grounds for Complaint:**

- Any individual, organization, or agency may file a complaint with Lanier County Schools if that individual, organization, or agency believes and alleges a violation of federal statute or regulation that applies to a program under ESSA guidelines.
- The complaint must allege a violation occurred not more than one year prior to the date the complaint is received, unless a longer period is reasonable because the violation is considered systemic or ongoing.
- Guidance for filing a complaint can be found on the GaDOE website or Lanier County School District website.

# District Contacts

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**Homeless Liaison**
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# LCES Attendance Improvement

## Unexcused Absences

1 day = phone call to parent

3 days = parent contact & notified in writing with board policy attached

5 days = Parent/guardian notified of unexcused absences, provided written notice of penalties and consequences

7 days = Parent/guardian visited by SRO and notified in writing

8 days = Referral to the Department of Juvenile Justice or Division of Family & Children Services

## Tardies, Late Check-ins, & Early Checkouts

*Late check-ins and early check-outs will be monitored by the teacher for patterns of excessive loss of instructional time

*A referral may be made to juvenile court, DJJ, or DFCS for accumulating 10 or more unexcused tardies, late check-ins, and/or early checkouts.

# LCES Attendance Improvement

## Absence Documents

*Parents must submit written documentation (e.g., doctor's notes, court orders) within three (3) school days of the student's return from an absence.

*Parent notes are accepted for no more than five (5) total days per school year.

## Make-Up Work

*Students with unexcused absences will not be allowed to make up work unless pre-approved by the principal.

*Students with excused absences will be given 5 school days from the date of return to complete missed assignments.