

Title I Annual Parent Meeting

BATTLEFIELD ELEMENTARY
Dr. Kent McCrary, Principal
2206 Battlefield Parkway
Fort Oglethorpe, GA. 30742
(706) 866-9183

Drive Thru Open House
August 17, 2020 (5th Grade)
August 18, 2020 (4th Grade)
August 19, 2020 (3rd Grade)

Welcome parents and community members!

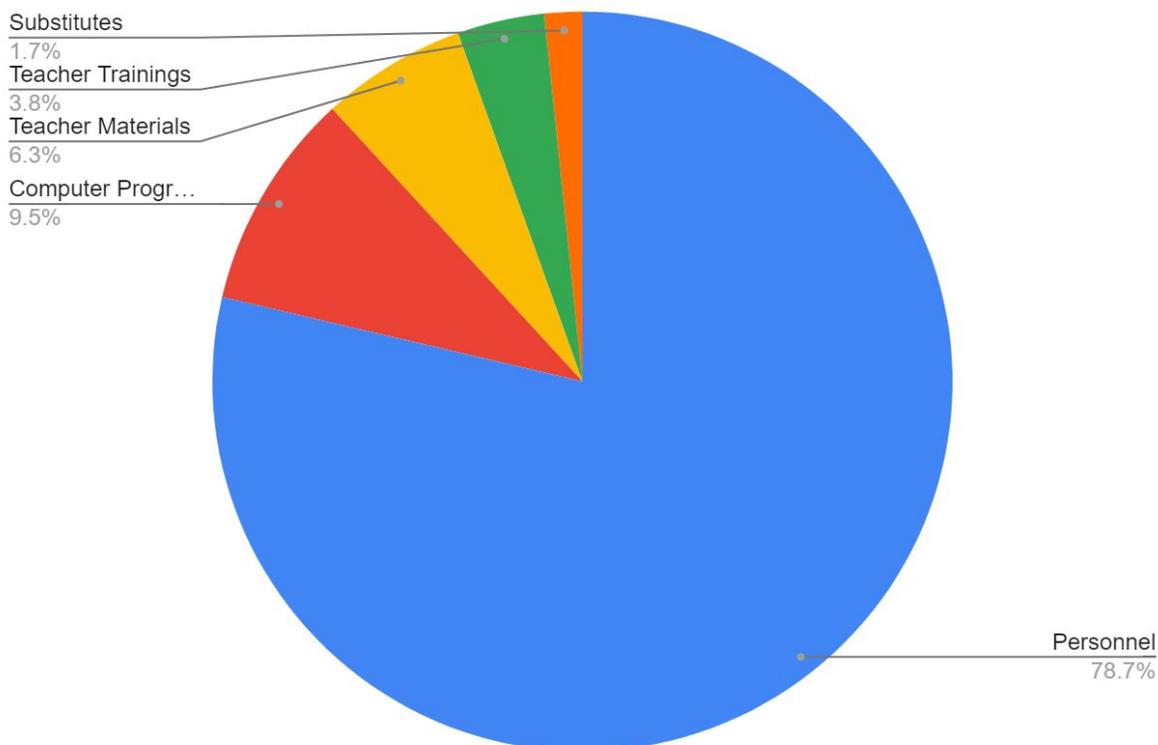
Welcome parents and community members. We are glad to welcome you to our school's Title 1 Annual Parent Meeting. This evening, we will be reviewing and discussing our school's Title 1 program. We will cover the following items that are important to you as parents.

1. What is a Title I school?

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Title I, Part A Section 1116 provides financial assistance to state and local educational agencies to meet the needs of at-risk children. The goal of Title I is to provide instructional services and activities which support students in meeting the state's challenging performance standards.

2. How does our school spend Title I money? (\$157,535)

2020-2021 BES Title I Budget



Most of our Title 1 money is spent on personnel. Through Title I funds, we are able to employ a full time academic coach (100%), a part-time interventionist (37.5%) and a parent coordinator (49%). The remaining funds are spent on instructional materials, technology, teacher training and parent resources.

3. How does our school participate in the Title I Program?

Our school participates in the school wide Title 1 program. That means we are able to use Title 1 funds for expenses that are designed to improve our school and result in higher achievement among students, particularly in the areas of reading and math.

4. What are our school's Title I (schoolwide) requirements?

The purpose of schoolwide Title I programs is to improve the entire educational program in a school. This should result in improving the academic achievement of **all** students, particularly the lowest achieving students.

5. Battlefield Elementary Schoolwide Program – Past and Present

- What are our school wide goals?

- 1) The percentage of students performing at a Level 3 (Proficient Learner) or 4 (Distinguished Learner) in English Language Arts on the Georgia Milestones will increase from 48% to 54% during the 2020-2021 school year.
- 2) The percentage of students performing at a Level 3 (Proficient Learner) or 4 (Distinguished Learner) in Mathematics on the Georgia Milestones will increase from 49% to 55% during the 2020-2021 school year.

- What programs/supports are in place to help my child?

- 1) Math and Reading supports are built into the school day. Students needing extra reading and math support receive 45 minutes of additional reading instruction and 30 minutes of math instruction each day. For the students not needing extra help, they are grouped and given enrichment. For both reading and math, additional teachers (EIP teachers and interventionist) join the class during their reading and math blocks to help assist the teacher with instruction and remediation.
- 2) Our academic coach trains and assists teachers on the most up-to-date teaching methods and strategies. During weekly planning times, teachers meet to collaborate, assess student data, and plan for upcoming lessons.
- 3) This year BES was able to continue offering a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math) lab. The teacher works with students on science and math skills. Students attend the class at least once a week and sometimes twice. All students have the opportunity to participate in robotics in the STEM lab.

6. What curriculum does our school use?

Catoosa County Schools uses the state adopted standards as the basis of our curriculum. Currently the adopted curriculum is the Georgia Standards of Excellence. These standards provide clear expectations for instruction, assessment, and student work. Teachers are encouraged to use instructional frameworks which include an opening, work session, and closing for the delivery of instruction. Pacing guides and curriculum units called "frameworks" are some of the resources used to support the implementation of the Georgia Standards of Excellence.

7. What tests will my child be taking?

The purposes of the Georgia Student Assessment Program are to measure student achievement relative to the state-mandated content standards, to identify students failing to achieve mastery of content, to provide teachers with diagnostic information, and to assist school systems in identifying strengths and weaknesses in order to establish priorities in planning educational programs. The assessment program includes customized summative criterion-referenced tests at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.

The Georgia Milestone results are released in four levels. Level 1 (Beginning Learner), Level 2 (Developing Learner), Level 3 (Proficient Learner), and Level 4 (Distinguished Learner). Level 2 is considered a passing score, however; all students are expected to be at a Level 3 or 4 at the end of the academic year.

Students in grades three through twelve take the Georgia Milestones assessment. Instruction is centered on the Georgia Standards of Excellence.

Georgia Milestones rely on the Georgia Student Growth Model (GSGM) initiative designed to provide students, parents, educators, and the public with important information on student progress. Academic achievement only tells part of the story. The addition of student growth tells a more complete story about the academic performance of students. Now we not only know where students ended up, but we also know how much progress they made to get there. This is an exciting time for students and their parents.

Distribute the Student Testing in Georgia handout.

8. What is required by law for parent and family engagement?

» **What is the district's parent and family engagement policy?**

» **What is the school's parent and family engagement policy?**

These are the policies/guidelines, required by the federal government, which we operate by on the district and school level. They give explanations of the Title 1 program and how it operates at the district and school level.

» **What is a school-parent compact?**

The school-parent agreement is a compact that is signed by teachers, parents and students outlining the responsibilities of each party. Working together, we are able to maximize learning for the student.

School systems must:

▷ Build capacity in parents as partners

▷ Share and support parents in attaining high student achievement

Parent and family engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including and ensuring that:

(a) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.

(b) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.

(c) Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, when appropriate, in decision making as well as being a part of the advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

(d) Policies that are jointly developed with parents guiding what we do in parent and family engagement. Check out the Catoosa County Parent and Family Engagement Policy. We welcome your recommendations on these. Get your copy before you leave this meeting.

(e) Each Title I school **jointly develops** a **school-parent compact** that outlines how **parents, the entire school staff, and students** will **share the responsibility** for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will **build and develop a partnership** to help children achieve the State's high standards. Be sure you let your parent involvement coordinator know what you want in the compact this year.

9. Does my child's teacher meet professional qualifications?

As a Title 1 school, we must meet federal regulations related to teacher qualifications as defined by ESSA. These regulations allow you to learn more about your child's teachers' training and credentials.

We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- o Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching
- o Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived
- o What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration
- o You may also ask whether your child received help from a paraprofessional, and information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

Please rest assured that our staff is committed to helping your child reach his or her maximum academic potential throughout their school career. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers and paraprofessionals are highly skilled and delivering quality instruction to your child.

10. How do parents lodge complaints? Parents should bring school complaints to the school principal. There is a procedure to address your concerns.

Parents should bring Title complaints to Gina Haynes, Catoosa County Schools Title I Coordinator. She may be contacted at 706-965-2297 or ghaynes@catoosa.k12.ga.us.

11. How is Title I parent and family engagement money spent?

We welcome your input on how we spend Title I money. You have our phone number and an input card for this purpose.

12. What opportunities does the school provide for parent and family engagement?

We are always needing volunteers. Volunteering can range from sorting papers to decorating tables for an event. We welcome all visitors. You can contact Andra for volunteer opportunities.

We will meet periodically throughout the year as well as provide opportunities for the whole family. At each meeting or event, we always asked for feedback that will help us to better serve the students and families.

13. Closing and evaluations

We welcome parent questions/comments throughout the presentation! We want to make sure you leave the meeting informed about the Title I program as well as the opportunities the school provides to get involved.

14. How responsive will the school be to my questions when staff is contacted?

We welcome questions and suggestions that will make our school better. You can contact us at (706) 866-9183 or:

Kent McCrary, Principal; Lauren Smith, Assistant Principal; Andra Herpst, Parent Involvement Coordinator

kmccrary@catoosa.k12.ga.us, lsmith@catoosa.k12.ga.us; aherpst.bat@catoosa.k12.ga.us

Thank you for coming! We hope to see you again very soon.