



# Title I



## Barnwell School District 45

### Purpose of Title I

**Title I** is a federal program that provides opportunities for the children served to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the challenging state content standards.

**Title I** resources are distributed to schools, where needs are the greatest, in amounts sufficient to make a difference in the improvement of instruction.

**Title I** coordinates services with other educational services and, to the degree possible, with health and social services programs.

**Title I** provides greater decision-making authority and flexibility within schools and for teachers. However, greater responsibility for student performance is the exchange made for this flexibility.

### Components of a School-wide Program

- A comprehensive needs assessment of the entire school is conducted.
- School-wide reform strategies provide opportunities for all children to meet the State's performance standards.
- Instruction is conducted by a highly qualified staff.
- Professional development is conducted on a continual basis throughout the year.
- Activities are conducted to increase parent involvement.
- Plans are included to provide transitional assistance from pre-school to elementary, from elementary, to middle school, and middle school to high school.
- Measures are taken to include teachers in decisions about assessment.
- Activities are conducted to ensure that students with learning disabilities are served appropriately.

### Parental Involvement

Parental involvement is an integral part of the Title I program. Parents are encouraged to become partners in helping their children achieve and become actively involved in all aspects of the process of the Title I program, from writing of the plan to its implementation and evaluation.

A strong connection between the home and the school is a key element in student success. Materials, strategies, and help from the teachers are available to all parents within a Title I school. Opportunities for active parent participation should include, but not be limited to open house, parent workshops, school-parent compacts, home visitations, parent-teacher organizations, conferences, monthly newsletters and more.

## **Parents' Right to Know**

As a parent of a student enrolled at school, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers and instructional assistants who instruct your child. Federal law allows you to ask for the following information about your child's classroom teachers and requires the district to give you this information in a timely manner:

- whether the teacher is certified to teach the subjects and/or grade levels the teacher is teaching,
- whether the teacher's certificate is a waiver or standard certificate,
- the teacher's academic major, graduate degrees, if any, and
- the teacher's certification area.

If you would like to receive this information, please call Linda Zionkowski at (803)541-1300.

## **Parental Involvement Policy and School-Parent Compact**

Each Title I school receives input from parents for the development of a parent involvement policy and school-parent compact. The parent involvement policy explains how the school plans to work with parents to review and improve parent programs and describes how parents can participate in planning these programs.

The school-parent compact outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the way in which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high expectations.

**The district is continually monitoring the implementation of the Title I plan and welcomes input from parents regarding its current and future Title I plans.**