

## **Introduction to Title I**

Title I is a federally funded program through the Elementary & Secondary Act (ESEA) designed to provide support to students who are performing below grade level in reading and/or math. The goal is to emphasize high academic standards in an effort to help students succeed in the regular classroom and reach grade level performance.

**What are some typical Title I services?** At White Bear Lake Area Schools (WBLAS), we offer Title I programs to meet the needs of students at individual schools. In all of our buildings, this means a 'targeted' program where selected students receive additional academic instruction or other types of assistance to support them in school. Typically services focus on providing additional help in reading and/or math instruction.

**Do all WBLAS schools have a Title I program?** No. The Federal law requires that Title I programs are available in schools with the greatest concentration of low-income families. Once a school qualifies, academic need – not economic status – determines the school programming and whether students receive extra instruction. Contact your child's school for more information about its Title I program and ask when the school's annual Title I meeting for families will be held.

**Who are Title I students?** Typically students identified as needing Title I services are those who are having academic difficulties or other concerns that are affecting their academic achievement in school. Usually students' needs are identified by their classroom teachers based on their test scores and other measures of academic performance. Those who show the greatest educational need and are not already receiving special education services or ADSIS services are served first.

### **How are parents/guardians involved?**

- Parents are invited to attend the school's annual Title I Meeting
- Parents are notified of their child's eligibility for and participation in Title I
- Parents, staff and students may participate in the development and carrying out of a compact that spells out the goals and shared responsibilities of the child, school and parents for student success
- Parents are encouraged to participate in Title I meetings and learning opportunities

### **As a parent/guardian, you have the right...**

- to know the qualifications of your child's teacher but all licensed teachers working in WBLAS are Highly Qualified employees
- to expect regular understandable communication with your school
- to have input in the school-level parent compact between the school and its families
- to have input in developing your school's family involvement plan
- to ask for a meeting with your school principal or your child's teacher at any time