

The Title I Schoolwide Program At Elroy School

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of some recent changes to our Title I program and how it will affect your child. In the past, Elroy School has been called a Targeted Assistance Title I school. This meant that only students in Title I classes were considered Title I students, and there was only one Title I teacher. Additionally, federal Title I money could only be used for the Title I program.

Now, Elroy School has been designated as a School Wide Title I school, resulting in ALL students being Title I students and ALL teachers being considered Title I teachers. Also, Title I money can now be used building wide for all classrooms. In the section below, there are some Frequently Asked Questions regarding how Title I will continue to be utilized at Elroy School.

Q: Is there a Title I teacher and classroom at Elroy School?

A: Yes. Mr. Mark Sundo certified reading specialist, conduct classes with small groups of students to provide more intensive reading instruction.

Q: What students go to the actual Title I classroom?

A: All students in grades K – 3 participate in a daily program known as Response to Intervention and Instruction (RTII). During this 30 minute period, students are grouped according to their need for reading instruction. Some students are given instruction that extends the classroom curriculum, some more closely review the classroom curriculum, and some receive more intense instruction to improve reading skills. The students who require additional instruction are those who will go to Title I.

Q: How do teachers decide who will go to the Title I classroom?

A: All students in grades K – 3 are given the DIBELS test three times each year (September, January, and May) to assess basic reading skills. Based on the results of this test, as well as teacher observation and test data in the classroom, students are recommended for Title I.

Q: Will my child miss something important by going to the Title I classroom?

A: No. All students are participating in the RTII period during this time. The Title I classroom is simply another area for instruction in this system.

Q: Will my child have additional work by going to the Title I classroom?

A: There will be opportunities to participate in at-home activities for rewards, but there will be no additional work REQUIRED to participate.

Q: If my child participates in the Title I classroom, will he/she be there for the entire year?

A: Not necessarily. Mr. Sundo and the regular classroom teachers reevaluate students' needs frequently. If your child seems to require less intensive instruction, through teacher observation and test data, he or she can be moved to an alternate group during RTII time.

Q: Does my child need parent permission to go to the Title I classroom?

A: No. Under the previous designation parent permission was needed. Now, all students are considered Title I students, and can be moved accordingly.

Q: How are all students benefitting from Title I, even if they are not going to the Title I room?

A: Title I money has been used to purchase iPad carts, which are used in all classrooms, as well as Promethean Boards for math classrooms in grades 2 – 5. Additionally, Mrs. Rebecca Hagerty has been assigned as an Elementary Math Coach for a portion of the year to assist both teachers and students with our new math curriculum.

Q: Who can I talk to if I have additional questions or concerns?

A: Questions can be directed to your child's classroom teacher or Mr. Sundo, (412) 881-4484 or sundom@brentwoodpgh.k12.pa.us.