

What Can Title I Do For My Child?

Bradley Beach School



Title I

Title I is the name for a government program that gives additional money to qualifying schools. These schools use Title I money to give extra help to students who need it. In the Bradley Beach School, eligible students receive Title I help in grades 1-8. Each year the Federal Government gives money to New Jersey and other states for Title I. Title I funding is based on a formula which includes the number of low-income families who live in a school district.

How are children selected for the program?

Sometimes children need assistance to meet the standards New Jersey has set for all children. This includes children who:

- Have trouble reading
- Read below grade level
- Have trouble understanding what they read
- Have difficulty with written language
- Have difficulty with math

What help does Title I provide?

Either you or your child's teacher might notice that your child needs extra help in one or more academic areas. Extra help includes:

- Additional teachers and assistants to work with very small groups or one-on-one before and after school
- Additional training for staff
- A variety of teaching methods and materials

How can I help Title I succeed?

Parental involvement is one of the most important elements for Title I success. As a parent, you are part of the Title I team. You may help your child succeed by:

- Working with your child at home
- Help determine program goals
- Evaluate programs

How can I help my child?

You know your child best. It's up to you to:

- Share information about your child's interests and abilities with teachers.
- Update your child's teacher and school about changes at home or in your child's health.
- Notice whether your child's needs are being met at school.
- Learn about the Title I program and what it has to offer your child.
- Monitor your child's progress by reviewing tests, report cards, and other assessments. Ask teachers for more information on his or her progress toward grade level goals.
- Speak up if you have concerns or notice any problems.

Know your child's school:

- Read newsletters and notices.
- Get to know your child's teachers.
- Attend parent-teacher conferences.
- Request additional meetings with the classroom teacher if you need them. Consider sending the teacher a note in advance with the topics you wish to cover.
- Attend school events such as open houses, family activity night, project fair, and concerts.
- Be a part of the Parent-Teacher Organization. Attend meetings if possible. They are always on the first Thursday of every month at 7 pm. The PTO president is Kim Charette.

Share life-long learning experiences:

- Let your child see you read newspapers, magazines or books.
- Visit your public library together. Help your child pick out books to read just for fun.
- Limit TV time and computer games to 1 to 2 hours per day.

Show an interest in your child's education:

- Show an interest in your child's school day. Go through your child's backpack every day. Ask questions and be specific about what the class is studying.
- Ask to see schoolwork, art projects, etc.
- Talk about school in a positive way.
- Praise effort and improvement, no matter how small.
- Do not focus on grades too much.

Build good study habits:

- Agree on a time for homework. If your child has no homework on a given day, have him or her use the time to review or read for pleasure.
- Arrange a quiet place for study that provides a large, clear work surface, a comfortable chair, plenty of light and materials needed such as pencils, crayons, ruler, dictionary, etc.
- Be ready to help but don't do the work yourself. Be patient. A child may make the same mistake many times before he or she catches on.
- Show respect for study by not watching TV or talking with friends while your child is studying.
- Allow breaks for snacks or moving around. Suggest your child divide homework into sections.

Keep in mind:

You influence your child's education more than any teacher or school. Your positive involvement can boost your child's achievement! By taking an active role in Title I, you'll show your child:

- How important he or she is to you
- How important education is to you
- That you and the school are a team

Parent involvement pays off...

Decades of research show that when parents are involved in their children's education, students have:

- Higher grades, test scores and graduation rates
- Better school attendance
- Increased motivation and better self-esteem
- Lower rates of suspension
- Decreased drug and alcohol use
- Fewer instances of violent behavior
- A greater chance of going on to college and other secondary education

National PTA (www.pta.org/parentinvolvement)