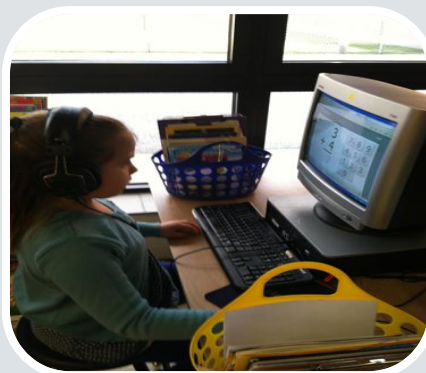


What is Title 1?

Title I is a federal aid program for elementary, middle and high schools. Title I money is given to school districts based on the number of low-income families in each district. Each district uses its Title I money for extra educational services for children most in need of educational help. The focus of the Title I program is on helping all students meet the same high standards expected of all children.

How are Title I funds used?

- Instruction
- Class size reduction
- Summer school
- After-school
- Instructional materials and supplies
- Additional teachers and paraprofessionals
- Parent resource center



For additional Information

Please contact:

Andrew Ingall, Superintendent

Phone: 616.850.5015

Email: ingalla@ghaps.org

Mary Jane Evink, Curriculum Director

Phone: 616.850.5075

Email: Evink@ghaps.org

Or view:

District Website: www.ghaps.org

Michigan Department of Education

Website:

<http://www.michigan.gov/mde/>

Grand Haven Area Public Schools

1415 Beechtree, Grand Haven, Michigan 49417

616.850.5000

www.ghaps.org



**Grand Haven
Area Public
Schools**
Title 1 Information

Providing exemplary programs and opportunities to meet the diverse needs of our students.

Title 1: Parental Involvement



Parent's Right to Know

Parents will be informed of their child's level of achievement in each of the state academic assessments.

Parents may request information regarding professional qualifications of classroom teachers and paraprofessionals by contacting your school or the District's Human Resource.

Studies have shown that children are more successful when parents are involved in their education. Parents can influence their children's education more than any teacher or school. By taking an active role in our school, parents show their children that they are valued and that education is important. Children learn that parents and the school are a team, working together to help them succeed. You can help your child succeed by volunteering, helping with homework, reading to your child and communicating with your child's teacher.

Parent Involvement/ Shared Responsibilities

Parent involvement is an important aspect of Title I. As a parent you can influence your child's success in school. We encourage you to be actively involved in your child's education. You can help by making sure that your child attends school every day, making sure homework is complete and attending parent teacher conferences.

The Parent Involvement Policy for Grand Haven Area Public Schools was jointly developed with parental participation to meet the federal education requirements and to meet the combined needs of parents, students and schools. Each Title I school has a unique parental policy that is supplemental to the district policy. (Please see page 4 for sample)



You can stay involved in your child's education by:

- Encouraging strong attendance
- Supporting homework practices
- Volunteering at your child's school
- Attending parent teacher conferences and open houses
- Joining your child's PTA
- Supporting your school's extracurricular activities
- Keeping your child's teacher informed about events in your child's life that may affect his/her performance at school
- Communicating with your child's teacher regularly by phone, email, or notes
- Reading with your child daily

Community Resources



United Way -211

700 Fulton St. Suite B, Grand Haven, MI 49417

Phone: (616) 842-7130

Website: <http://ottawaunitedway.org/>



Love, INC

1106 Fulton St, Grand Haven, MI 49417

Phone: (616) 846-2701

Website: www.loveinctricities.org/



Salvation Army

310 N. Despelder St, Grand Haven, MI 49417

Phone: (616) 842-3380

Website: <http://salvationarmyusa.org>



Tri-Cities Ministry

120 South Fifth Street, Grand Haven, Michigan 49417

Phone: (616)-842 -9160

Website: <http://www.tcmcounseling.org/>



United Way -211

700 Fulton St. Suite B, Grand Haven, MI 49417

Phone: (616) 842-7130

Website: <http://ottawaunitedway.org/>



The People Center

307 E. Exchange St., Spring Lake, MI 49456

Phone: (616)-844-6710

Website: <http://www.thepeoplecenter.org/>



R.E.A.D Adult Literacy

Loutit District Library

407 Columbus, Grand Haven, MI 49417

Phone: (616)-843-1470

Website: <http://readadultliteracy.org/>



Grand Haven Area Public Schools

Parent - Student - School Agreement 2013 – 2014

PARENT/GUARDIAN AGREEMENT *(Any adult who is interested in helping this student may sign in lieu of the parent)*

I want my child to succeed. Therefore, I will encourage him/her by doing the following:

- Ensure my child is punctual and attends school regularly.
- Establish a time for homework and review homework regularly.
- Provide a quiet place for study.
- Encourage my child's efforts and be available for questions.
- Stay aware of what my child is learning and what he/she is expected to learn.
- Provide positive educational experiences for my child.
- Read with my child and let my child see me read.

Signature _____ Date _____

STUDENT AGREEMENT *(signed by student)*

It is important I work to the best of my ability. Therefore, I shall strive to do the following:

- Attend school regularly.
- Arrive at school on time.
- Come to school each day prepared for learning.
- Complete and return homework assignments promptly.
- Observe regular study hours.
- Follow rules of student conduct and follow directions.

Signature _____ Date _____

STAFF AGREEMENT *(signed by teacher)*

It is important students achieve. Therefore, we shall strive to do the following:

- Expect students to achieve at their highest level.
- Provide appropriate and meaningful homework assignments for all students.
- Provide necessary assistance to parents so they can help with the assignments.
- Use special activities at school to make learning enjoyable.
- Communicate with parents the expectations for their child, and communicate regularly on the progress of these expectations.
- Provide an environment that allows for positive communication between the teacher, parent, and student.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent or guardian: Please read this agreement with your child, and have him or her return to your child's teacher within the first week of school. Thank you!

Grand Haven Area Public Schools

Title 1 Targeted Assistance Parent Involvement Policy

Part I: Policy Involvement

The Grand Haven Area Public Schools Title 1 Targeted Assistance Parent Involvement Policy was created as a collaborative effort between parents and staff. Parents played a role in the development of this policy and we will continue to utilize their feedback and suggestions in order to update and improve our Title 1 Program: 1118 (b)

Convene an annual meeting: 1118 (c) (1)

Grand Haven Area Public Schools School will:

- *Hold an annual Title 1 Meeting at the fall Open House and spring Parent-Teacher Conferences*
- *The purpose of the meeting will be to share The Plan, review the School Parent Involvement Policy, and to explain our Title 1 program and how parents can be involved to help their child be successful.*
- *Parents will be notified in advance through newsletters and an invitation from the building principal.*

Offer flexible meeting times and varied activities designed to support and encourage the involvement of all parents: 1118 (c) (2)

Grand Haven Area Public Schools School will ensure the involvement of all parents by offering the following activities:

- *Parent Nights*
- *Parent Conferences*
- *PTA Activities*
- *Flexible IEP times*
- *Contact with social worker and/or school psychologist*
- *Fall Open House*
- *Family Story Nights (twice a year)*
- *Family Science Night (once a year)*
- *Family Math Night (once a year)*
- *Writing Celebrations*
- *Daily Volunteers (such as HABIT books)*

Involve parents in planning, reviewing, and improving the Title 1 program, including the School and District Parent Involvement Policy: 1118 (c) (3)

Grand Haven Area Public Schools School will encourage and invite the involvement of parents in planning and reviewing the Title 1 program by:

- *Reviewing the School Parent Involvement Policy at Open House and spring Parent-Teacher Conferences.*
- *Posting the Parent Involvement Policy for parents to review during Fall Parent Teacher conferences in a visible location.*
- *Placing a suggestion box located under the visible plan for parents to make suggestions during the fall Parent Teacher conferences.*
- *Distributing Parent Compacts at fall Open House and conferences.*
- *Conducting a Parent Survey at fall Parent Teacher conferences for all parents.*
- *Reviewing and revising the Parent Involvement Policy to incorporate suggestions based on the Parent Survey results.*
- *Expanding all avenues of communication with parents (school newsletter, classroom newsletters, District publications and website, blogs, PTA website) to increase parent involvement in the Title 1 program*

Provide timely information about the Targeted Assistance Title 1 Program, the academic curriculum, assessments used to measure progress, and grade level expectations: 1118 (c) (4) (A) (B)

Grand Haven Area Public Schools School will provide timely information through:

- *Family Story Night*
- *Parent conferences (fall/spring/additional conferences upon parent request)*
- *School Newsletters*
- *Report Cards*
- *District Web Site – Policy and Compact available on website*
- *Optional Early Parent Conferences – meet intervention specialists and learn about intervention programs*
- *Parent Workshop*
- *Telephone Calls/E-mail correspondence*
- *Parent-Student Handbook*

Provide parents the opportunity to interact with teachers regarding the education of their children. Include parents in the decision making process and utilize their suggestions for improvement. Revise The Plan to meet student and parent needs and share revisions with LEA: 1118 (c) (4) (C) & 1118 (c) (5)

Grand Haven Area Public Schools School will provide parents an opportunity to interact with their children's school by:

- *Suggestion Box located in a visible location where parents can provide suggestions/comments for improvement regarding the Title I program*
- *Include Title I as a monthly agenda item at PTA meetings. Utilize parent feedback to revise and update our Title I program to meet the needs of all parents and students. Share suggestions and comments with the School Improvement Team and act on suggestions as appropriate.*
- *Conduct a Parent Survey at fall Parent Teacher conferences for all parents*
- *Hold a Title I meeting at fall Open House and spring Family Story Night to review the Title I program, parent involvement policy and ask for suggestions for improvement.*
- *Parent conferences (fall/spring, additional conferences upon parent request)*
- *Telephone Call/E-mail correspondence between parents, teachers and school.*

Part II: Share Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement

Develop jointly with parents and teachers a School/Parent/Student Compact. The compact will outline ways in which the parents, school staff, and students will work together to ensure high student academic achievement. The compact will be reviewed and discussed during fall parent-teacher conferences: 1118 (d) (1) & 1118 (d) (2) (A)

Grand Haven Area Public Schools School will develop a School/Parent/Student compact:

- *The Parent/Teacher/Student compact is developed by the district and reviewed annually by the Grand Haven Area Public Schools community.*

Provide frequent reports to parents on their children's progress: 1118 (d) (2) (B)

Grand Haven Area Public Schools School will provide various academic reports to parents:

- *Report Cards (quarterly)*
- *Progress reports available on an as-needed basis*
- *Parent Teacher Conferences (Fall/Spring with additional conferences available upon request)*
- *Take home folders (weekly)*

Afford parents reasonable access to staff. Provide opportunities for parents to volunteer participate and observe in their child's classroom: 1118 (d) (2) (C)

Grand Haven Area Public Schools School has an open door policy for parents with both administration and staff. In addition, parents are encouraged to participate in the following activities:

- *PTA (Parent Teacher Association)*
- *Room Parents*
- *Classroom Volunteers*
- *Chaperones for field trips*
- *Room observations as requested by parents*

Part III: Building Capacity for Involvement

Provide information and assistance to parents regarding the state and local academic standards and assessments: 1118 (e) (1)

To ensure that parents are informed about academic standards and assessments, Grand Haven Area Public Schools School will provide the following:

- Parent Conferences (fall/spring with additional conferences available upon request)
- ELPA results for ELL students sent to parents
- Local assessment information (DIBELS, district writing assessment, interim assessment in math and reading,) shared with parents at conferences
- Students receiving additional assistance will be progress monitored on a bi-weekly basis depending on student need. Information will be shared with parents when appropriate.
- Interventionists available at conferences to provide information and answer questions about assessments

Provide materials and training to parents: 1118 (e) (2)

Grand Haven Area Public Schools School offers training and materials to parents through the following events and activities:

- Kindergarten Roundup (with information on the transition to Kindergarten)
- Kindergarten Screening (assessment) Day
- Meet The Teacher Night/Open House
- Parent Workshop
- Provide lists of community resources to individual parents and assistance in accessing these resources, as needed.
- Summer School program.
- Weekly school newsletters/Classroom newsletters/District publications.
- Annual Title 1 meeting.

Educate teachers, Title 1 staff and principals regarding the value of parent involvement, ways to communicate effectively with parents, and implementation of parent programs: 1118 (e) (3)

- Grand Haven Area Public Schools School values and respects parent involvement in the school community. Parent involvement will be part of the professional development plan. Staff will attend workshops and implement new ideas for effective parent communication. When situations occur that involve students or the welfare of the entire school community, parental input will be solicited.

Coordinate parent involvement activities with other programs: 1118 (e) (4)

Grand Haven Area Public Schools School will work to coordinate programs to ensure success for all:

- Kindergarten Roundup
- Kindergarten Screening (assessment) Day: activities to educate preschool parents, and community stakeholders on Kindergarten expectations
- GSRP-Great Start Readiness Program: Preschool program located in our district that prepares students for Kindergarten expectations
- Parent Volunteers
- Fall Open House
- Family Story Nights
- PTA

Inform parents of school and parent programs in a timely and practical format in a language they can understand: 1118 (e) (5)

To ensure that all parents are informed in a timely and user-friendly manner, Grand Haven Area Public Schools will provide:

- School Newsletter/Classroom Newsletters/District Newsletters written in a language parents can understand.
- Bilingual interpreter, as needed, for all parent contacts
- Personal Communication: Through conferences, phone calls, and formal and informal face-to-face meetings.

Provide support for parental involvement at their request: 1118 (e) (14)

Grand Haven Area Public Schools School will make every effort to support our parents and make sure their needs are met:

- *Make every effort to accommodate parent requests to ensure students and parents individual needs are met in order to foster more positive parent involvement*

Part IV: Accessibility

Parent involvement activities accessible to all parents, including those with disabilities and parents who use English as their second language: 1118 (f)

Grand Haven Area Public Schools School will provide:

- *Flexible meeting times*
- *Home Visits from Social Worker when appropriate*
- *Handicapped Accessible Facilities*
- *Phone Conferences (Bilingual interpreter, as needed)*
- *School Newsletter/Classroom Newsletters/District Newsletters written in a language parents can understand*
- *Collaboration with community agencies; i.e., Community Mental Health*
- *Transportation Assistance*



Grand Haven Area Public Schools

Ferry Elementary School • Steve Avram, Principal
1050 Ferry St • Grand Haven, MI 49417
616.850.5300 • Fax 616.850.5310 • www.ghaps.org

Dear Parents:

Grand Haven Area Public Schools, along with all public schools in the country, are required to provide parent notifications of those who attend schools classified as Title 1. Please see below a description of the required parent notifications.

- **Right-to-Know Notifications**

Parents of students in Title 1 schools have the right to request the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals. If needed, please contact the Human Services Department for assistance.

- **Annual Education Report (AER)**

The AER provides detailed data on state and national assessments, Adequate Yearly Progress results and teacher qualifications. Grand Haven Public Area School's AER is located on our school website as well as the district website at www.ghaps.org.

- **Parent Involvement Policy / Plan Notification**

- *School-Level Parental Improvement Plan*

Ferry Elementary has jointly developed a written parent involvement plan that details actions supporting the district's Parent Involvement Policy.

- *School-Parent Compact*

Ferry Elementary has jointly developed a school-parent compact that is sent home in the first week of school.

- **Notification of Parent Meeting, Planning for, and Evaluation of Program**

Ferry Elementary needs to provide an information meeting to inform parents of the program's requirements and how parents can be involved in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the program. Our school will be hosting this informational meeting at 6:30 before our April PTA meeting on April 9.

- **Student Academic Achievement**

Ferry Elementary is required to ensure that parents receive a report on their child's achievement on state assessments. Parents of students who take the Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP) receive a printed report of their student's results.

- **Limited English Proficient (LEP) Parental Notifications**

Ferry Elementary is required to provide specific information to parents of LEP students. Our district has a process of identifying eligible LEP students, placement in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program, as well as a parent waiver for LEP students to receive services from the district.

If you have any questions about the above notifications, please feel free to call me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Steve Avram

What is the Purpose of Title 1 Funding?

According to the U.S. Department of Education the purpose of Title 1 funding, “is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high quality education and reach, at minimum, proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and state academic assessments.”

Title 1 funds aim to bridge the gap between low-income students and other students. The U.S. Department of Education provides supplemental funding to local school districts to meet the needs of at-risk and low income students.

The basic principles of Title 1 state that schools with large concentrations of low-income students will receive supplemental funds to assist in meeting student’s educational goals. Low-income students are determined by the number of students enrolled in the free and reduced lunch program. For an entire school to qualify for Title 1 funds, at least 40% of students must enroll in the free and reduced lunch program.

Types of students that might be served by Title 1 funds include migrant students, students with limited English proficiency, homeless students, students with disabilities, neglected students, delinquent students, at-risk students or any student in need. Students can be classified as at-risk for numerous reasons. A few reasons they might be classified as at-risk students include: high number of absences, single-parent home, low academic [performance](#) or low-income family.

The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requires all districts and schools receiving Title I funds to meet state "adequate yearly progress" (AYP) goals for their total student populations and for specified demographic subgroups, including major ethnic/racial groups, economically disadvantaged students, limited English proficient (LEP) students, and students with disabilities. If these schools fail to meet AYP goals for two or more years, they are classified as schools in need of improvement and face consequences as outlined below.

How will Ferry Elementary School Participate?

- Provide a Parent/Student/School Compact with listed shared responsibilities,
- Involve parents of children served in Title I or 31a on School Improvement Team.
- Offer training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children’s achievement, such as literacy training to foster involvement.
- Provide Reading Support
- Provide Math Intervention Opportunities
- Provide a summer school program