

Every Child Succeeds Act of 2015

The Robert Hunter and Francis A. Desmares Elementary Schools qualify for federal funding under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.



For questions or concerns regarding Title I federal grant programs, please refer to Board Policy 2415.2 and contact:

Daniel E. Bland
Assistant Superintendent of Schools
dbland@frsd.k12.nj.us
908.284.7538

For information on Parent Involvement Policies, please refer to Policy 2415.04 and contact your child's teacher or principal to learn more about how you can get involved:

Carol Howell, Principal
Francis A. Desmares Elementary School
908.284.7540

Dr. Kathy Suchorsky, Principal
Robert Hunter Elementary School
908.284.7620

Flemington-Raritan Regional School District

Dr. Johanna Ruberto
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Vanessa Ahmed
Principal, Copper Hill Elementary

Carol Howell
*Principal, Francis A. Desmares
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Dr. Kathy Suchorsky
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Flemington-Raritan Regional School District

Title I Parent Night



The Flemington-Raritan Regional Schools provide our students with an exceptional education, empowering them to become problem solvers, collaborators and critical thinkers. The district creates a culture in which students act responsibly and communicate effectively in preparing to become productive citizens in a changing, global society. It is the expectation of the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District that all pupils achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards at all grade levels.

FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL TITLE I PROGRAM

What is “Title I”?

Title I is a federal grant program that provides qualifying schools and districts funding to provide extra programs and resources for identified students.

The program was first created in 1965 as the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), and reauthorized in 2015 as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Francis A. Desmares and Robert Hunter Elementary Schools qualify for this funding, and your child will be receiving extra services as a direct result of this funding.

What extra services will be provided with FRSD’s federal Title I funding?

A committee of parents, administrators, and teachers reviewed the acceptable uses of the grant funding and school-level needs to determine how best to spend our Title I funds. Based on their work, the decision was to devote the funding to improve students’ literacy skills.

The district hired two Literacy Coaches who will work closely with your child’s teacher to improve how literacy instruction is delivered. The goal is to provide your child’s teacher with new, research-based strategies that will better meet his/her needs.

The Literacy Coaches are responsible for co-planning lessons, delivering model lessons, sharing innovative resources, and leading professional development workshops for your child’s teacher.



How did my child qualify to participate in this program?

The criteria for this program is developed by the principals and teachers, and it includes multiple measures of a child’s literacy skills. Although the assessments differ by grade level, generally they include the following:

- AIMSweb R-CBM Reading Fluency Probe
- Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA)
- MAZE Reading Comprehension Assessment
- Kindergarten assessments of a child’s letter naming fluency, letter sound fluency, phoneme segmentation, and nonsense word fluency

How can I learn more about ways I can get involved in my child’s education?

We believe that a strong home-school connection is necessary to support your child’s academic growth. We encourage you to attend Back to School Night, Parent-Teacher Conferences, and future parent programs. We also welcome you to volunteer at your child’s school as your schedule permits.

You can also review progress reports, report cards, graded assignments, and information regarding upcoming assignments and projects sent home with your child.

You are encouraged to communicate with your child’s teacher via phone, email, or backpack. Additional parent conferences are also available upon request.

What is a School-Family-Student Compact?

One of the requirements of our federal funding is clear expectations for the student, family, and school. In particular, we are required to work with parents to develop a “compact” or agreement that clarifies how we will work together to meet your child’s needs.

These compacts must be signed annually and maintained as part of the record keeping for the Title I grant.

Why did I receive a copy of District and School Involvement Policies?

It is a requirement of the federal grant that parents be informed of these policies and encouraged to seek opportunities for involvement. You can also access these policies on the district webpage.

What are some things parents can do to encourage critical thinking at home?

- Read to your child and allow them to read to you.
- Ask “why” questions and questions that require your child to “predict” outcomes.
- Encourage your child to write and maintain a personal journal.
- Ask questions that require your child to apply basic math concepts such as adding, subtracting, multiplying, dividing, estimating, and telling time.
- Require your child to justify or defend their ideas and decisions.
- Visit high interest, high quality educational websites with your child.