

# Hyde Park Middle School

## Academy of Science and Mathematics

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is Title I?**

Title I was first enacted in 1965 as part of the “War on Poverty.” It was part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to ensure equal educational opportunities for all children. Its purpose was to close the achievement gap between poor and affluent children by providing additional resources to schools serving disadvantaged students.

Title I has been reauthorized under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. The focus of the reauthorization is to raise the achievement of all students. By the 2013-14 school year, all students must be proficient in reading, math and language arts. To reach that goal, scientifically research-based materials must be used to improve student achievement. In the 2006-07 school year science will be assessed, but not counted toward AYP.

### **How does a school become a Title I school?**

Any school in CCSD where the percentage of the children from low-income families is equal to the district average, as determined by free and reduced lunch, is eligible for Title I services. Available funds are then allocated starting with the school with the highest percentage of students receiving free and reduced lunch.

### **What does it mean to be a “Highly Qualified” teacher?**

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires that teachers in Title I schools, hired after the start of the 2002-03 school year, must meet the requirements upon employment. Elementary teachers must have passed the Praxis II – Specialty Area Tests. Middle and secondary teachers must demonstrate competency in each of the subjects they teach by passing the Praxis II – Core Subject Assessments or successfully complete one of the following:

- An academic major in the subject taught
- Coursework equivalent to an undergraduate academic major
- A graduate degree in the subject taught
- A professional license in the subject taught issued by Nevada licensing; or
- National Board certification in the subject area the teacher is teaching.

As of June 30, 2006, all teachers must meet the highly qualified requirements.

The state of Nevada has established the High Objective Uniform State Standard of Evaluation (HOUSSE) to provide guidance to assist the school district in determining if a teacher is meeting the “highly qualified” teacher requirements. That information may be obtained by going to the Nevada Department of Education website at [www.doe.nv.gov](http://www.doe.nv.gov).

### **How does a paraprofessional meet the requirements of No Child Left Behind?**

All newly hired support staff must have the equivalent of two years of college (48 credits), an Associate's Degree, or pass a rigorous exam (Praxis ParaPro Assessment) in order to qualify. At all Title I schools, paraprofessionals must be highly qualified.

### **What does AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) mean?**

No Child Left Behind requires schools to show that all student subgroups are making progress. If one subgroup fails to make progress in one area, the school will not make [Adequate Yearly Progress](#), even if the school does well over all.

### **Are there special conditions for using Title I purchased computers?**

No Child Left Behind requires that computers purchased under the act should be for student use with research-based programs. Disposal of obsolete or broken equipment must be done through the Title I office and not through regular district procedures.

### **Where can I find additional information on the law and the No Child Left Behind Act?**

There are at least two good sources from which to start. The first one is the national website for No Child Left Behind at [www.ed.gov/nclb/landing.jhtml](http://www.ed.gov/nclb/landing.jhtml). This site will provide background information on the law as well as links for guidance on regulations on "Highly Qualified Teachers," charter schools and more.

The second site is from the state of Nevada at [www.doe.nv.gov/accountability/nclb](http://www.doe.nv.gov/accountability/nclb). This site provides information on the law and its implementation as they relate to the school districts in Nevada. It includes links for adequate yearly progress (AYP), "Highly Qualified Teacher" requirements, and 21<sup>st</sup> Century grants.

### **What is Supplemental Educational Services: (SES)?**

Supplemental Educational Services is federally funded tutoring offered to students outside the regular academic day by providers recognized by the Nevada Department of Education.

### **How do students qualify for Supplemental Educational Services?**

Students attending Title I schools that are in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of "in need of improvement" and who are receiving free and/or reduced lunch are eligible to receive Supplemental Educational Services (See [Adequate Yearly Progress](#) chart).

### **How do service providers for SES qualify to be on the state list?**

Service providers for Supplemental Educational Services must submit an application and be approved through the criteria of the Nevada Department of Education.

### **Can students change service providers?**

If a student/parent is not satisfied with the services provided and requests a change to another qualified provider, valid reasons must be presented to the Title I office and approved before a new provider may be chosen. This may be done as long as funds remain in the individual student's allocated account.

### **Who decides the service provider for each student?**

Only the parent/guardian may decide the service provider for each student.

### **How long will tutoring services extend?**

Students receive services until their individual allocations are depleted.

### **How are service providers paid?**

Service providers invoice the Title I Office and must document student attendance.

**What professional development is provided by the service providers?**

Service providers are responsible to offer professional development to their employees.

**How are tutoring programs monitored?**

Representatives of the Title I Office make monitoring visits to each service provider's programs.

**How are faculty members chosen to serve as tutors?**

A service provider may employ any teacher in the school district. Teachers that are not employed by the school district must be fingerprinted and proof of eligibility must be submitted to the district.