Beverly Public Schools

Title I Services

Parent Handbook
2014-2015

Revised October 2014
INTRODUCTION

The Title I project in the Beverly Public Schools is a student support program to ensure every child has the opportunity to achieve educational excellence. Title I programs are designed to enable Title I schools to identify children who are low achieving students and to provide academic support services to these learners.

Funding for these services is provided by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, with funds provided to each state by the federal government. These funds are provided to communities based on the number of children from low-income families in the community. Statistics on families receiving aid from the Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance determine the schools eligible to receive Title I funds. The population statistics for each school are reviewed annually; therefore, the schools that receive a share of the funding may change each year.

Currently, we provide Title I services in three Beverly Public Schools (Ayers, Centerville, Cove) and two private schools (St. Mary's, St. John's).

The Title I program on a national, state, and community level encourages programs for elementary school children. Title I provides expanded math and reading instruction focusing on children in grades 1-5 and family support.

Beverly's Title I staff is dedicated to providing children with academic skills and positive self-esteem needed to succeed in school. Fostering a love of literacy and numeracy enabling children to become proficient readers and strong math students are the keys to a positive, productive elementary school experience in Beverly.

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Parent Involvement in Title I
"Parents as Partners"

Title I parents are a vital part of the home-school team. They are our
"Partners in Education." The value of parental involvement is critical to a
child's success in school.

Title I programs in Beverly are committed to the belief that parents are the
first teachers of each child. This remains true even after children are
enrolled in school programs. Parents who are involved in a child's education,
have children who are better students than those parents who do not get
involved at school.

Each Title I school in Beverly will develop strategies that encourage parent
involvement in student learning. At a very minimum, it is expected that each
parent will spend 15 minutes a night in some type of school related activity.
Some examples of how this time is spent include: having your child read to
you, having your child listen while you read, helping your child complete a
homework assignment, or working on a special project suggested by your
child's teacher. There are many quality educational television programs and
computer games that parents can share with children. Family times such as
quiet sharing time, games, and field trips all assist in educating children.

Parent's participation in Title I is also encouraged through a series of annual
meetings. Title I will host an annual meeting in the spring. The goal of this
annual meeting is for parents to provide feedback about the success and
quality of the Title I programs at each school and to assist in planning the
Title I services for the next school year. Parents will receive a notice
inviting them to its annual Title I Parents Meeting. Parents of Title I
students are expected to sign a Parent Compact committing your support to
your child and the program.

The Title I program is committed to serving children and families. The
Beverly Public Schools strive to provide opportunities for growth and
greater academic success for all children. Parent informational nights will be
held during the school year. These will focus on a particular topic. Make it a
priority to attend. We can all use some helpful hints! Watch for more
information.

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A progress report will be sent home each trimester (December, March, and June). If you have any questions, please contact your child’s Title I teacher.

Math Instructional Program

Title I supports the belief that early intervention assists in helping children become successful in school and fosters lifelong learners. Title I math in Beverly supports children who have been identified as having difficulty meeting the benchmarks for their core mathematics program. Math instruction in Title I will focus on providing the extra support needed for students to reach benchmark goals. This may be done in a small group setting in or out of the classroom. Children are identified using weight sheets which take into consideration grade-level performance as well as classroom assessments. Students who are referred for consideration receive further testing to identify weak areas for remediation.

Reading Instructional Programs

Title I is committed to the goal that all children will be proficient in reading by the end of Grade 3. Beverly believes that reading is the most important academic skill a child learns in elementary school. Good readers are able to unlock doors to all kinds of learning.

Title I Reading in Beverly supports children who are in the process of learning to read. Our major focus is to provide reading instruction to the children in the first through third grades. Title I supports the district core reading programs of Wilson Fundations and Scott-Foresman.

As part of our regular classroom assessment program (DIBELS, G.R.A. D.E. and Scott Foresman) students are identified for support when they do not reach benchmarks throughout the year. Additional testing is provided by the Title I teacher for students who are referred for services. Title I focuses on providing students with additional support in the five components of reading (phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension) so that students can keep up with grade-level expectations for these components. The goal of the program is to enable students to reach benchmark and “test out” of the program.
The Title I handbook is intended to introduce you to services available to children in our community through Title I. Additional information will be provided by your child's Title I teacher.

We encourage you to consult regularly with your child's classroom and Title I teacher. Working together, parents and teachers, we will create high achieving children!

**Benefits of Parent Involvement**

**Students**

Higher grades, test scores, and graduation rates  
Better school attendance  
Increased motivation, better self-esteem  
Lower rates of suspension  
Decreased use of drugs and alcohol  
Fewer instances of violent behavior  
Greater enrollment in postsecondary education

**Teachers**

Greater morale (and self-esteem)  
Teaching effectiveness (proficiency) increases  
Job satisfaction goes up  
Communication/relations with students, parents, families, and communities improves  
Community support of schools increases

**Parents**

Communication/relations with children and teachers improves  
Self-esteem goes up  
Education level/skills increase  
Decision-making skills become stronger  
Attitude toward school and school personnel improves

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Helping Your Child Learn Mathematics

PDF (776K)
Our increasingly technological world demands strong skills in mathematics, not only in the workforce but also in everyday life, and these demands will only increase over the lifetimes of our children. The major portion of this booklet is made up of fun activities that parents can use with children from preschool age through grade 5 to strengthen their math skills and build strong positive attitudes toward math. (March 2004) en Español

Helping Your Child Become a Reader

PDF
Other than helping your children to grow up healthy and happy, the most important thing that you can do for them is to help them develop their reading skills. This booklet offers pointers on how to build the language skills of young children, and includes a list of typical language accomplishments for different age groups, suggestions for books, and resources for children with reading problems or learning disabilities. (August 2002) en Español

Helping Your Child With Homework

PDF (508K)
Homework can help children to develop positive study skills and habits, improve their thinking and memory abilities, and encourage them to use time well, learn independently, and take responsibility for their work. This booklet helps parents of elementary and middle school

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students understand why homework is important and makes suggestions for helping children complete assignments successfully. (August 2002) en Español

An Annotated Bibliography of Reading Websites

**www.scholastic.com**
This website has lots of information and activities that can help parents promote reading and support their child’s academic progress.

**www.storylineonline.net**
This website features popular children’s stories read by celebrities with captions and activities to support the story.

**www.starfall.com**
Starfall.com was begun to teach children to read with phonics. Its systematic phonics approach, in conjunction with phonemic awareness practice, is perfect for preschool, kindergarten, first grade, second grade, special education, English language development (ELD, ELL, ESL) and struggling readers.

**www.vocabulary.com**
You can test your vocabulary knowledge or just use the dictionary on this site.

**www.abcya.com**
This site includes free computer games and apps for all grades and all content areas.

**www.pbs.org**
Enjoy games and videos that teach and entertain and feature PBS programs such as Sesame Street and Curious George.

**www.eduplace.com**
Select the Families tab and find activities and games to support reading.

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www.bookadventure.com
Book Adventure is a fun, free way to motivate your child to read! Kids in grades K-8 can find a book, take quizzes on what they've read, and earn prizes for their reading success.

www.janbrett.com
This well-known Massachusetts's author shares books and drawing activities.

kids.nationalgeographic.com
This site has games, stories and activities for all ages with an entire section on animals and pets.

www.kidsclick.org
This is a web search for kids by librarians. It has a Reading, Writing, Speaking and Literature section.

www.crayola.com
This is a fun site for the whole family

www.bookadventure.org
This site matches children with books at their reading level. They can find books, read online, and take quizzes to earn points and prizes.

www.pbskids.org/lions/stories
Based on the PBS children's show, this site has stories and games.

An Annotated Bibliography of Math Websites

Students (and maybe a few teachers) seem to be divided into two groups - those who think math is fun and those who don't. Perhaps through the exploration and implementation of some of the following web resources, the "math is fun" group will grow and prosper.

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aaamath.com
Here you will find all areas of math for the elementary level. The site is interactive and can be used by students, teachers, and parents. Topic and grade level can be specified. Links to other sites are provided.

coolmath.com
In this network of sites, there is something for everyone—students, teachers, and parents. The name of the game is fun! Students will learn without realizing it. A few specialty areas covered include probability, logic, starting a business, and concentration skills.

www.curiousmath.com
Most of this site is too difficult for students to navigate. However, it contains many interesting math facts. Parts could be used for making up your own math games.

www.funbrain.com
Seventeen original games based on baseball, soccer, car racing, etc. provide interesting drill and practice for even reluctant math students. Money concepts are covered in "Change Maker."

www.mathcats.com
This is a sensational site, especially for cat lovers. Many grade levels and areas of math are covered here from the four basic operations to fractions and geometry. The word problem section contains problems sent in by students and provides a unique method of checking one's answers. This site also incorporates writing through their bimonthly contests.

nctm.org
This is the website for the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, providing resources for teachers. Here one can find featured articles about math topics, as well as their relative new online Journal of School Mathematics, ON-Math. One of the most directly usable section is "Figure This," which contain fun logic problems, with answers and explanations provided.
Math Activities for Parents to do at Home
(Developed by Maureen Schug and Holly Ventola)
Grades in parenthesis

Number Sense
- Practice counting out loud to 100. (1/2)
- Practice counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's. (1/2)
- Practice counting items around the house, piles of buttons, cotton balls, crayons in their box, etc. (1)
- Practice tracing numbers on each other’s backs and guess what number it is. (1)
- Practice doing simple addition by putting objects together and counting the total. (1)
- Say a number. Ask child to tell you a number that is more of less than the number you said. (2)
- Help them estimate how much of something they have or see in the house. (2)
- Ask your child questions about the calendar. Are there any special days coming up such as a birthday, or a trip, or a special party? Ask how many days or months until the special day. Find it on the calendar. What is the date? (2)
- Practice flash cards with addition and subtraction facts. (1/2)
- Look for math story problems in your life. For example, “There are 10 cookies left. If you eat 2, how many will be left?” (1/2)
- Practice counting to 1,000. (2/3)
- Give a number. Ask your child what number is 1 more, 1 less, 10 more, or 10 less, 100 more or 100 less than the given number. (2/3)
- Give them two 3-digit numbers. Ask them which is more or which is less. (2/3)

Patterns and Relationships
- Clap or tap a pattern and have your child copy you. For example: one clap, two claps, one clap, two claps, etc. (1)
- Have your child make up their own patterns with clips, shapes, or objects, etc. (1)
Geometry
- Have your child look for shapes in their world and describe- a book= a rectangle, a clock= a circle, etc. (1/2/3)
- Experiment with shapes and make designs or pictures just using triangles, circles, squares, and/or rectangles. (1/2/3)

Measurement
- Estimate the size of the object. For example, "I'm thinking of an object that is shorter than Mommy, but taller than you." (1/2)
- Practice telling time. What time is it? What time do you leave for school? What does the clock look like then? (1/2/3)
- Dump all the change out of your purse/pockets and ask your child to tell you the names of all the coins. Have them tell you how much each is worth. Have them count the total amount of money that you have. (1/2/3)
- Practice measuring objects and distances around the house using rulers and/or tape measures. (2/3)
- Try estimating how long it takes to do something. (brushing your teeth, getting dressed, cooking dinner, etc.) then time the task. (2/3)

Math Games to Practice Math Facts
Using Playing Cards
(available at the Dollar Store)

Number cards are face value
Aces=1, Kings=10, Jacks=0, Discard Queens

Addition Top-It (Grades 1-5)
Players draw two or three cards. The player with the greatest sum takes the hand. When all the cards are used, the winter is the player with the most cards. Grades 3-5 can draw 4 cards and add double-digit numbers.
*Strategy: Create the largest double-digit numbers for the greatest sum.
Subtraction Top-It (Grades 1-5)
Players draw two cards. The player with the greatest difference takes the hand. Grade 2 can draw 3 cards and subtract a one-digit number from a double-digit number. Grades 3-5 can draw 4-6 cards and subtract two and three-digit numbers. *Strategy: Create numbers to make the greatest difference.

Multiplication Top-It (Grades 3-5)
Players draw two cards. The player with the greatest product takes the hand. Grades 4 and 5 can draw 3-5 cards and multiply two and three-digit numbers. *Strategy: Create numbers to make the greatest products.

Division Dash (Grades 3-5)
Players draw three cards. They divide a two-digit dividend by a one-digit divisor and the resulting quotient is their score. Remainders are ignored. Players keep score on paper and the first to 100 is the winner. *Strategy: Create large dividends and small divisors to make the greatest quotient.

Name That Number (Grades 3-5 to practice all operations and math properties)
Each player draws five cards. Then a "target" card is drawn. Players try to get the "target" number by adding, subtracting, multiplying, dividing, squaring or using the identity properties of 0 and 1 in math operations with the five cards that they have. The number of cards used is your score. For the next hand, keep any cards not used and draw enough cards to make five for the next hand. A new "target" card is drawn for each hand. Play continues until there are not enough cards left to replace all of the players' cards. The winner is the player with the highest score at the end of the game.

Websites for Parents

www.ed.gov/parents
www.pta.org