



# Wyoming Valley West School District Title 1 Home & School Connection



Volume 1, Issue 2

## What is Title I?

Title I of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is a federally funded program that provides assistance to states and school districts to meet the needs of academically at-risk students.

The goal of Title I is to provide extra instructional services, resources, and activities which support students who are identified as those who would benefit from Title I services the most in order to meet the state's challenging performance standards in mathematics, reading, and writing. WVWSD is a targeted assist program which places eligible children with specially trained Title I staff.

For additional information regarding the Title I Program at WVWSD, please log onto [www.wvwsd.org](http://www.wvwsd.org). From our homepage, click on DEPARTMENTS > TITLE I. Here you will find information such as Title I FAQ's, School – Parent Compact, Family Engagement Policy, Right to Know Policy, and more. If you have any questions regarding our Title I Program, please contact Mrs. Debbie Troy, Director of Federal Programs (570)288-6551 ext. 10408 or Mrs. Kelly Thomas, Title I Secretary (570)288-6551 ext. 10400.

## Keep Up to Date on Your Child's Grades with Skyward

At any time, you can check your child's grades on [www.wvwsd.org](http://www.wvwsd.org). Simply log on to our website, click on the **PARENTS** tab, and choose **SKYWARD ACCESS** and **LOGIN**. You not only have access to your child's grades & attendance, you can also verify your child's personal information such as home, address, emergency contacts, etc.

*\*If you are a first time user of Skyward or need your password reset, there is a link that available for you to complete & a new password/instructions will be sent to your email.*

## What are the PSSAs?

The PSSA (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) is a standards based assessment administered in all PA public schools. There are 4 content specific categories including reading, writing, math & science. Students in grades 3-8 are assessed in Math and English Language Arts. Students in grades 4 and 8 have an additional science component.

The object of these examinations is to help teachers identify weak student areas and help them to improve.

The duration of the reading and math tests take approximately 2 ½ to 3 hours each. Additional time is needed for the administration of the tests. These tests are NOT timed.

Testing is scheduled to begin April 19<sup>th</sup> and end on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Your child's school will notify you of the specific days your child will be tested.

## Mark Your Calendars!

**April** – Autism Awareness Month

**April 1<sup>st</sup>** – ACT 80 Day – 12:00 dismissal

**April 5<sup>th</sup>** – Parent Advisory Meeting  
1:00 @ State St Elementary

**April 14<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>** – Spring Recess – No School

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Earth Day

**April 29<sup>th</sup>** – Last day for Kindergarten registration

## Title I Contacts

Mrs. Deborah Troy – Director of Federal Programs & Personnel (570) 288-6551 ext. 10408 [dtroy@wvwsd.org](mailto:dtroy@wvwsd.org)

Mrs. Kelly Thomas – Title I Secretary (570) 288-6551 ext. 10400 [kthomas@wvwsd.org](mailto:kthomas@wvwsd.org)

Mr. Tim Needle – Principal, State Street Elementary (570)779-5381 [tneedle@wvwsd.org](mailto:tneedle@wvwsd.org)

Mr. Anthony Diction – Principal, Chester Street Elementary (570) 287-2438 [adiction@wvwsd.org](mailto:adiction@wvwsd.org)

Mr. Angelo DePrimo – Principal, Dana Street Elementary (570) 283-0591 and Schuyler Ave. (570)287-6041 [adeprimo@wvwsd.org](mailto:adeprimo@wvwsd.org)

Mr. David Novrocki – Right to Know Officer [dnovrocki@wvwsd.org](mailto:dnovrocki@wvwsd.org)

## Looking Ahead!

WVWSD is continually monitoring our Title I program and welcomes input from parents, school staff, and community members. Thank you for your continued support of our Title I Program as we partner together to help our students continue to succeed academically.

**Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting** – Our Spring Parent Advisory Council meeting will be held at **State Street Elementary at 1:00 pm**. Parents that have signed up for the Parent Advisory Council during the Title I Annual Meeting will be contacted by Mrs. Kelly Thomas, Title I Secretary. If you have not signed up yet and are interested in joining, please contact Mrs. Kelly Thomas at (570)288-6551 ext. 10400.

**End of the Year Title I Meeting Picnic** –Planning is underway for our Title I End of the Year Meeting to be held in **May 2022 (Date TBA.)** During this meeting, we will review and approve the WVWSD Parent & Family Engagement Policy, complete the Title I End of Year Survey, collect input for the following school year, and more. Invitations will be sent home, listed in the school's newsletter and posted on the WVWSD website. Please plan to take part in this meeting and share your experiences, thoughts, and suggestions. Your feedback and input will guide us in planning the 2022-2023 school year.

## FREE Learning Websites

**Sumdog** – [www.sumdog.com](http://www.sumdog.com) Sumdog is designed to motivate children to work on math, reading and writing. It is used by thousands of schools across the world. Use it at home or use it at school....best part is that it is FREE!

**Cool Math 4 Kids** – [www.coolmath4kids.com](http://www.coolmath4kids.com) is a free amusement park of games, lessons, and more, designed to teach math and make it FUN!



## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registrations for the 2022-2023 school year are currently being conducted. You may register your child on [www.wvwsd.org](http://www.wvwsd.org) or call Central Office at (570)288-6551 ext. 0. Registrations should be completed by April 29, 2022. Kindergarten screenings will begin in May. Please visit our district website for more information.

## Math Fluency

When children are taught math and given opportunities to practice it each day, their math understanding develops.

Try using manipulatives! They are fun and they allow the learning to be hands on. Anything can be used as a manipulative – beads, pennies, toy cars, beans, etc...

Help your child practice Mental Math. Mental Math is the ability to think of and solve a problem quickly and independently. This takes a lot of practice!

Apply different problem solving strategies to homework or every day events. Solve problems in more than one way. For example, addition and subtraction problems can be solved by counting on your fingers, drawing number representations, using manipulatives, TouchPoints, and/or Mental Math.

## Helping Kids Sound Out Words

When you read, you probably don't spend much time decoding the individual words. You just read, and as you get to each word, you instantly recognize it. But beginning readers don't have that kind of instant recall, so it is important to teach them how to sound out words.

### **What Does "Sounding Out Words" Mean?**

When you sound out a word, you say each sound in the word slowly (s...i...t) and then say the sounds together more quickly (sit). This is referred to as blending because the sounds are blended together to form a word.

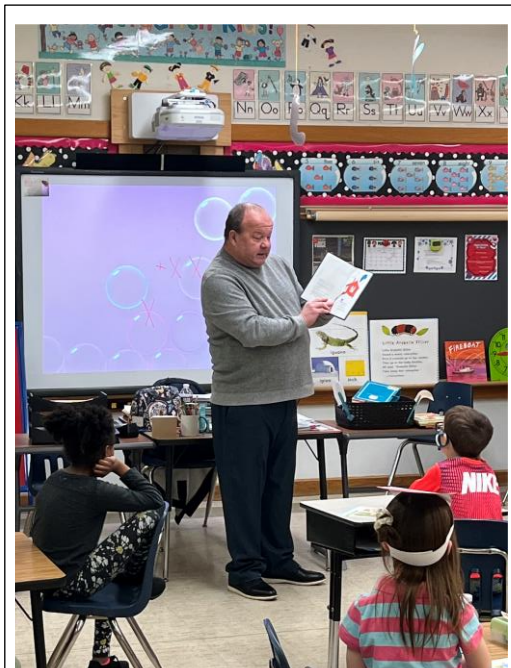
### **Why is Sounding Out (Blending) Important?**

When a child can say the sounds of the letters in the order in which they appear, and can then blend those sounds into a recognizable word, he/she is able to read thousands of phonetically regular words.

Because it unlocks so many words, blending is an important goal of reading comprehension. In fact, research shows that learning to sound out words has a powerful effect on reading comprehension.

# Read Across America ~ Dr. Seuss Week

Read Across America was celebrated during the first week in March in all of the WWSD elementary schools. Each building celebrated in their own way with special days such as Cat in The Hat Day, wearing wacky socks or crazy hair, and celebrating one of our favorite author's birthday, Dr. Seuss! Special readers from our community visited classrooms and shared their love of reading with our students. Thank you to everyone who made this annual celebration so much fun!



Mayor Jeff Coslett reading to Kindergarten, Third Ave



Mr. Anthony Dicton, Principal of Third Ave & Chester St reading to students.



Ms. Lori Bantel's 2nd Grade Reading Class, State St



## Parent Resource Center



Schuyler Ave. Elementary

Don't forget to visit the Title I Parent Resource Center at your child's elementary school. Educational resources such as brochures, reading & math strategies, books, and more are available for you to take home (resources may vary between schools.) All resources are FREE! 😊

## Title I Educational Networking

WWV and Wilkes-Barre Area Title I reading specialists recently participated in a professional learning opportunity at the Luzerne Intermediate Unit (LIU) 18. Loriann Hoffman, LIU representative, facilitated the networking session where the participants shared information about their Title I programs and discussed educational resources and best practices to enhance instruction for Title I students. Future meetings are being planned to invite additional Title specialists to discuss and share information about their programs.

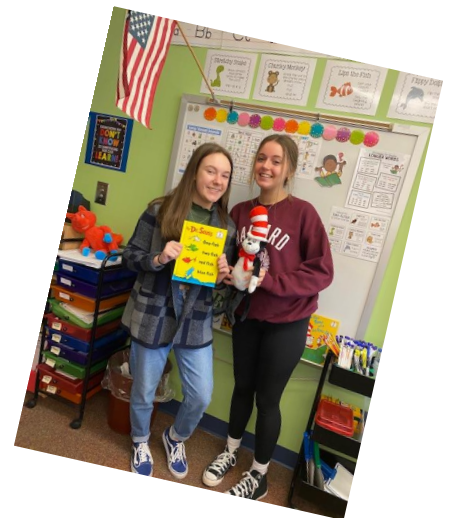


Left to right: Dr. Patricia Karlonis, WWV; Dr. Patricia Burns, WWV; Mary Jo Petlock, WBASD; Lorrie Gardner, WBASD; Loriann Hoffman, Educational Consultant, LIU 18.

# SCHOLARS



Pictured above are some of the members of the SCHOLAR (Students Creating Honest and Outstanding Leadership Amongst Readers) Program. Title I students at Dana Street, Chester Street, Schuyler Avenue, and State Street Elementary look forward each week to visits by these High School Student Council members. Topics of books are focused on friendship, understanding, and inclusivity to promote the positivity and to combat the TikTock challenges that encourage negativity and violence. Thank you to our SCHOLARS for being such positive role models to our elementary students!



## April is Autism Awareness Month!



Autism, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD), refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication. According to the Centers for Disease Control, autism affects an estimated 1 in 44 children in the United States today.

Wear blue to shine the light on autism in April during the World Autism Month and all year through! Take a free 30-minute course to increase your knowledge on autism awareness on [www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org).

