



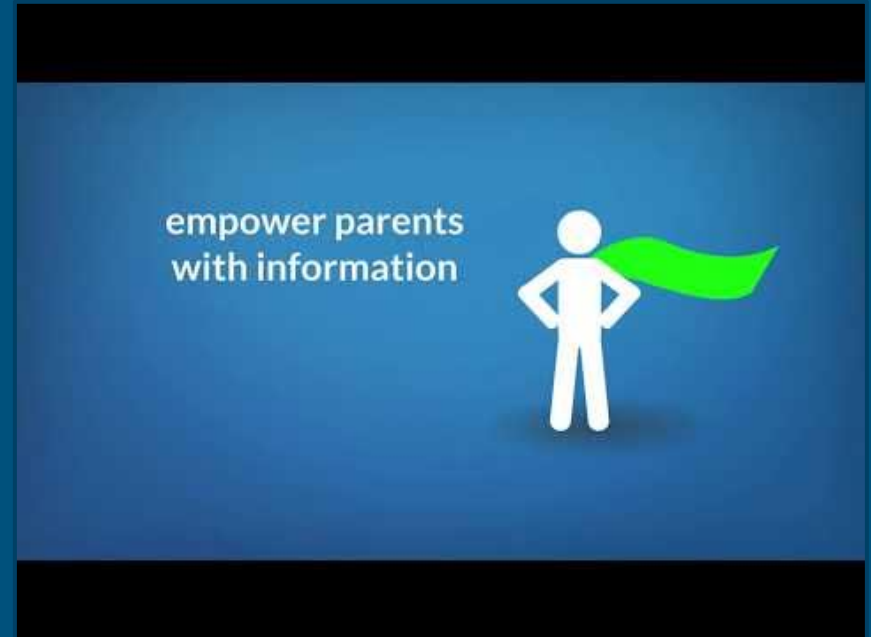
What is ESSA and How Can I be Involved?

Annual Meeting
Ralph C. Mahar Regional
August 26, 2022



ESSA is . . .

The [Every Student Succeeds Act](#) (ESSA) is the federal K-12 education law of the United States. ESSA was signed into law in 2015 and replaced the previous education law called “*No Child Left Behind*.” ESSA extended more flexibility to States in education and laid out expectations of transparency for parents and for communities.



[DESE School Profile](#)
[2021 School Report Card](#)

What ESSA Funding Does the School Receive?

- **Title I** - provides funding to local school districts to **improve the academic achievement of disadvantaged students** (ELA, Mathematics, Science, & ESL)
- **Title IIA** - provides funding to local educational districts to **improve the quality and effectiveness of teachers, principals, and other school leaders**
- **Title IV** - provides funding local educational district's to provide students with a **well-rounded education**, improve school conditions for student learning

Definition of Title I:

- Title I provides federal funding to schools to help students who are low achieving or at most risk of falling behind.
- Title I is allocated to schools based on the percentage of student receiving free/reduced lunch.
- Schools with a percentage of at least 40% are eligible for a schoolwide program.

Ralph C. Mahar Regional School operates a **Title I Schoolwide Program.**



Schoolwide Means:

- The school uses Title I funds to upgrade the entire educational program of the school.
- Title I funds are used to serve all children in order to raise academic achievement.
- Title I funds will be used to provide additional assistance to all students who experience difficulties in meeting the State's performance targets.

To be a “Schoolwide” School:

- The school must have a free/reduced lunch count of at least 40%.
- The school must collect and analyze data that affects student achievement.
- The school must develop a comprehensive site plan and annually review the effectiveness of the plan.

Ralph C. Mahar Regional School Title I Schoolwide Program

Planning Team:

- Marie Cole, Director of Curriculum
- Scott Hemlin, Principal
- David Messing, Director of Student Services
- Ashlee Bass, Title I Paraprofessional (Math)
- Caitlyn Squires-LaCoste, Teacher (ELA)
- Gretchen Lafferty, Teacher (Science)
- Danielle Boucher, Parent

Summary:

- Raise the Student Growth Percentile (SGP) to 50+
- Increase individual performance level to next band on the MCAS by 10% in ELA, Math, and Science from 7th to 8th and from 8th to HS (grade 10)
- Increase level of proficiency by 10% each year in ELA, mathematics, and science between from 7th/8th to 10th grade.

Focus Goals

- to move 10% of students in Grades 7 - 11 from up on performance level between beginning of year (BOY) and end of year (EOY) assessments in English language arts as measured by STAR Reading
- to move 10% of students in Grades 7 - 11 from up on performance level between beginning of year (BOY) and end of year (EOY) assessments in mathematics as measured by STAR Math

Curriculum and Instructional Strategies:

- To provide middle school students with supplemental mathematics support with a Title I mathematics paraprofessional
- To provide all middle school students with a supplemental science course as part of their Unified Arts (UAs) with a Project Lead the Way module (PLTW)
- To provide high school students with supplemental English support with an elective creative writing class
- To provide educators with supplemental instructional materials that allow them to support students with various learning styles
- To provide students with ASOST for additional support with academics -- tutoring

Title I Math Support

Ashlee Bass

Supports MS students

Title 1

Provides
supplemental 1:1 and
small group support
during the school day

Math Paraprofessional

abass@rcmahar.org



Title I ELA Support

Caitlyn Squires-LaCoste

Title I

Creative Writing

csquires-lacoste@rcmahar.org



MS & HS Students
Supplemental Class

Provides explicit
writing instructions
for students:
focusing on free
response and
response to texts

Title I Science Support

Gretchen Lafferty

Title I

Science - PLTW

glafferty@rcmahar.org



MS Students


Supplemental Class


Provides
supplemental
instruction for
students on the
Science
Technology and
Engineering
Standards

Assessment:

- We assess all students in Grades 7-11 using the STAR Reading and the STAR Math assessment 3x per year: BOY, MOY, & EOY
- We will monitor students' attendance with the use of a new data dashboard to ensure that all students receive adequate instructional time


2021: DESE Accountability Level


School and District Profiles



Profiles Home | Directories | Statewide Reports | State Profile

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Ralph C Mahar Regional (07550505)

Ralph C Mahar Regional



2021

General
Students
Teachers
Assessment
Accountability
Trends – DART

- > [Accountability Report](#)
- > [2021 School Report Card](#)

Related Links:

- [Statewide Accountability Report](#)
- [School and District Performance Summary](#)

2021 Official Accountability Report - Ralph C Mahar Regional

Organization Information	
DISTRICT NAME Ralph C Mahar (07550000)	TITLE I STATUS Title I School
SCHOOL Ralph C Mahar Regional (07550505)	GRADES SERVED 07,08,09,10,11,12
REGION West/Central	FEDERAL DESIGNATION -


Accountability Information *

Overall classification	Not requiring assistance or intervention
Reason for classification	Moderate progress toward targets
Progress toward improvement targets	44% - Moderate progress toward targets
Accountability percentile	26

*The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education did not issue school, district, or state accountability determinations in 2021.

*The above accountability information represents determinations from 2019.

About this Report
The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education did not issue school, district, or state accountability determinations in 2021. For more information, visit our Accountability Lists, Materials, and Tools website.

Resources
 Interpretive Materials

Title I Parent Notification Requirements

Parent Involvement Policy

- The Ralph C. Mahar Regional School holds an annual ESSA/Title I presentation and families are provided with an overview of the ESSA services offered at the school
- In the spring, a Title I/Curriculum Night is offered to students and family. Students and their families come to the school to learn about the progress the Title I program has made in closing the achievement gap; all supplemental curricula is shared with parents/guardians at this time and expected benchmark attainment levels and the goals of the Title I program.
- Parents are informed of opportunities they have to become involved in the school and for their input and feedback. In addition, parents and students participate to learning activities and games that parents and children can participate in outside of school hours to enhance learning. After the event participants are sent a follow-up survey about the event. Results are shared with administration and Title I teachers. Information from this survey is used to adapt and change the services provided, support offered to parents, and outreach opportunities to families.
- Parents are also informed that they have the right to request a meeting at any time with their child's Title I teacher or the Title I director to discuss their child's progress or the Title I services being provided at the district/school.

School-Parent Compact



Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District
507 South Main Street
P.O. Box 680
Orange, Massachusetts 01364-0680

Telephone (978) 544-2542

Fax (978) 544-8383

Scott Hemlin
HS Principal

Marie Cole
Curriculum Director/Title I

Leslie Moody
Asst. Principal

School-Parent/Guardian Compact

The Ralph C. Mahar Regional School, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), and participating children and their parents/guardians, agree that this compact outlines how parents/guardians, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents/guardians will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards. As the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School is now a School-Wide Title I Program, based on the percentage of economically disadvantaged students in the district, all students are receiving a copy of this compact.

This compact is in effect during school year 2021-2022

School Responsibilities:

The Ralph C. Mahar Regional School will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:

Parent's Right to Know – Student Achievement

- Each fall, parents/caregivers will receive notification via USPS with their child's MCAS results from the previous spring assessments.
 - Students in Grades 3-8 & Grade 10 will participate in ELA and mathematics
 - Students in Grades 5, 8, and HS (based on course taken)

Parent's Right to Know – Non-Highly Qualified Teachers

- Each year in the fall, all parents are notified if their child is receiving educational services from an individual that is not considered highly qualified by DESE
 - This may be educators with “pending” licenses
 - Educators that are teaching in areas outside their field -- i.e. an English teacher who is licensed (5-8) that is teaching a Grade 9 English course; DESE allows ALL educators to teach 20% out of their field

How Can You Be Involved?

- Volunteer at your child's school
 - PTO
 - School Council
 - Athletic Boosters
 - Open House
 - Family Nights
 - Sporting Events
 - School Events



Right to Request Meetings

- At any time, parents/caregivers have a right to request a meeting to discuss their child's progress and educational opportunities.
- Please reach out to you child's teacher(s) or guidance counselor to schedule a meeting
- Building administration is also available to meet to discuss issues with your regarding your child

Title IIA

Provides funding to local educational districts to **improve the quality and effectiveness of teachers, principals, and other school leaders**

These funds school-wide, department, and individual PD opportunities for the district educators

Title IIA Sponsored PD



Igniting imagination and innovation through learning.
Green Building and Sustainable Architecture

A responsible approach to environmental and human health

PLTW - Training



Mentor Coaching for Teachers



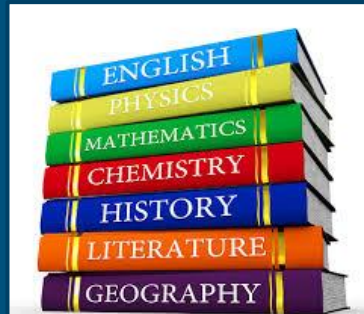
Foreign Language PD



Teach Anxiety Management for the Real World

Social Emotional Learning - SEL

Content Specific PD



Title IV

Provides funding local educational district's to provide students with a **well-rounded education**, improve school conditions for student learning

Priorities of Title IV, Part A – Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE):

1. Provide all students with access to a well-rounded education;
2. Improve school conditions for learning to ensure safe and healthy students;
3. Improve the use of technology to improve academic achievement.

Title IV Sponsored: Dual Enrollment Courses

- A Greenfield Community College professor works in concert with a Ralph C. Mahar content teacher. The students participate in an online dual enrollment course with the support of a RCM educator earning both high school and college credit. Dual enrollment courses are open to juniors and seniors and are held during the school day.
- We will be expanding our offering for the 2022-2023 school year from three courses to five courses. Students will be able to earn up to 16 college credits (an entire semester) prior to graduation.

SEMESTER	COURSE	AVERAGE GRADE	# STUDENTS
Spring 2021	English 101	B+ (87%)	16 Students
Fall 2021	Psychology 101	A (94%)	16 Students
Fall 2021	English 101	A- (90%)	13 Students
Spring 2022	English 112	B+ (89%)	9 Students

Questions?

Contact Information

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