



# What is **ESSA** and How Can I be Involved?

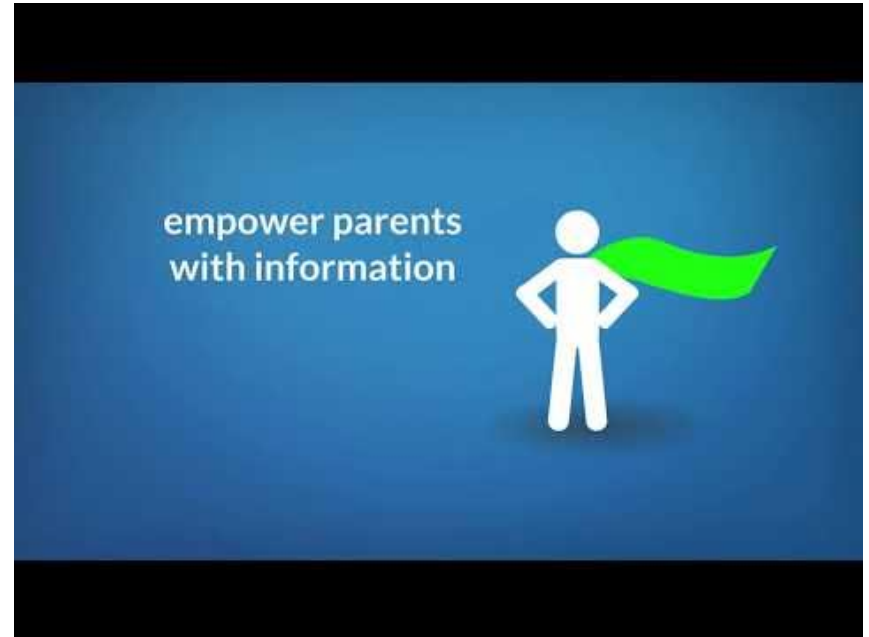
Annual Meeting

Petersham Center School

April 24, 2024

# 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](#)  
[2023 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.

Petersham Center School  
operates a  
**School-Wide Title I Program.**



# School-Wide 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 “School-Wide” 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.

# Petersham Center School Title I School-Wide Program



# Planning Team:

- Marie Cole, Director of Curriculum
- Aaron O'Connor, Principal
- Phil Saisa, Director of Student Services
- Tracey Smith, Title I Interventionist
- Michele Tontodonato, Director of Finance

# Summary:

The Title I Interventionist will use ongoing formative assessment data and routine progress monitoring data to adjust instruction in order for students to make measurable gains. The data utilized will include DIBELS 8, STAR early literacy, STAR reading, STAR Math, and iReady math data.

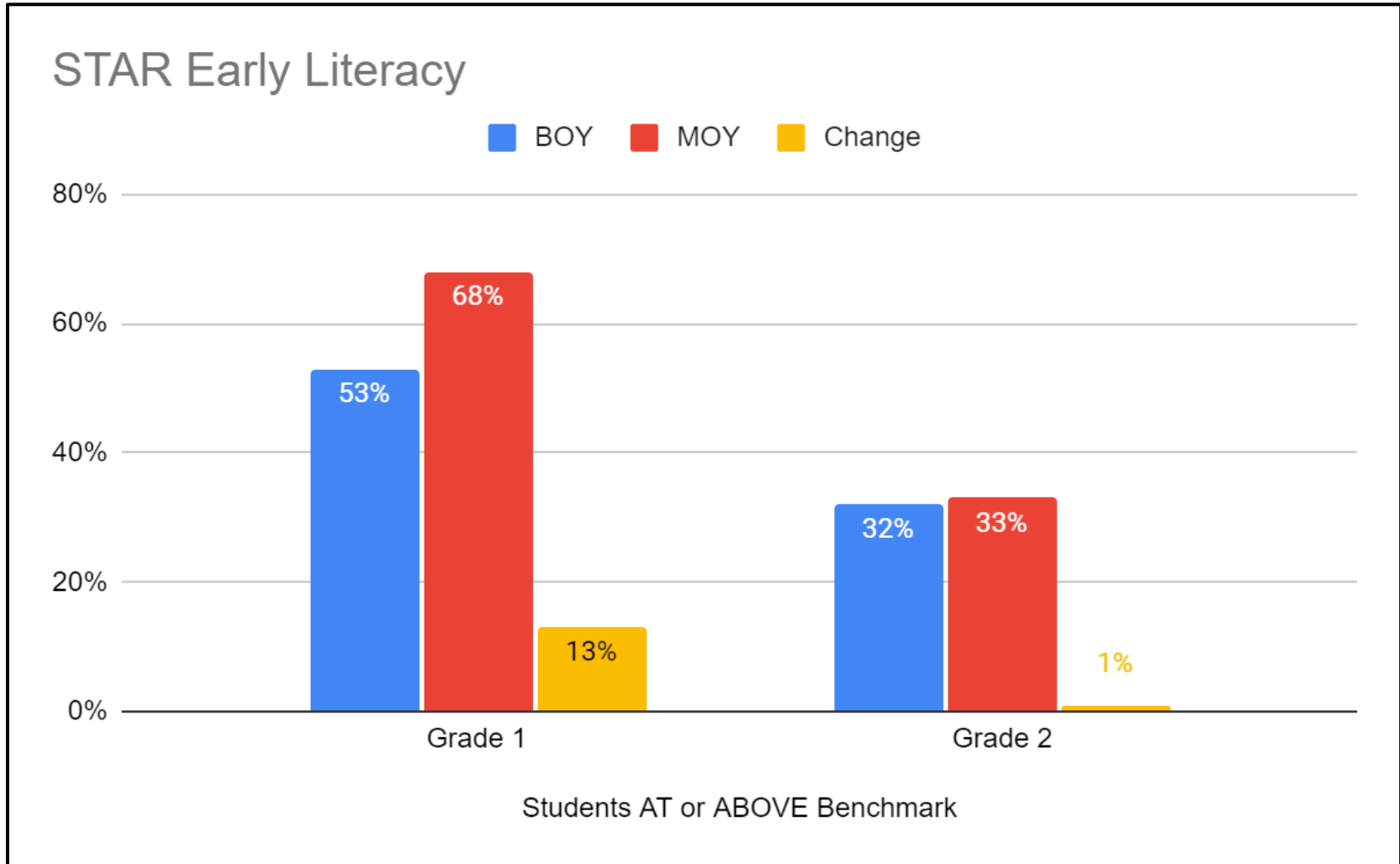
Teachers will utilize evidence-based practices; core high-quality, curriculum materials (HQIM); and culturally responsive practices to provide ALL students with access to grade-level standards. ensuring equal access to the curriculum; and ALL students will have access to tiered academic and behavioral supports in order to make meaningful gains.

# Focus Goals

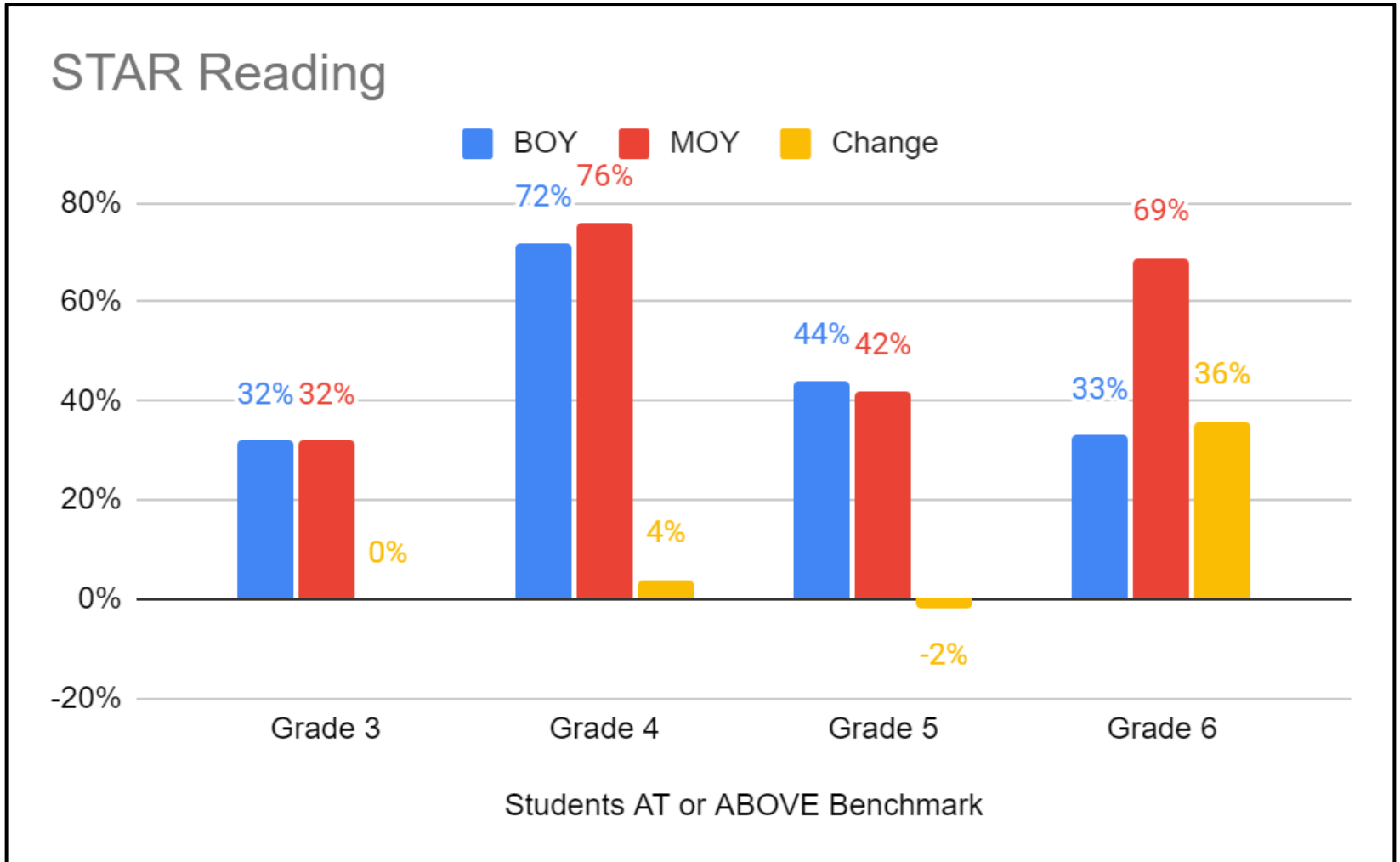
As a result of focusing on this priority, by June of 2024 the district anticipates seeing an increase in student proficiency in:

- 75% of students leaving Grades K-2 at benchmark levels as measured by DIBELS, Star Early Literacy, STAR Reading, and iReady Math
- 15% increase in reading and math proficiency for students in Grades 3 - 6 as measured by DIBELS, Star Early Literacy, STAR Reading, and iReady Math

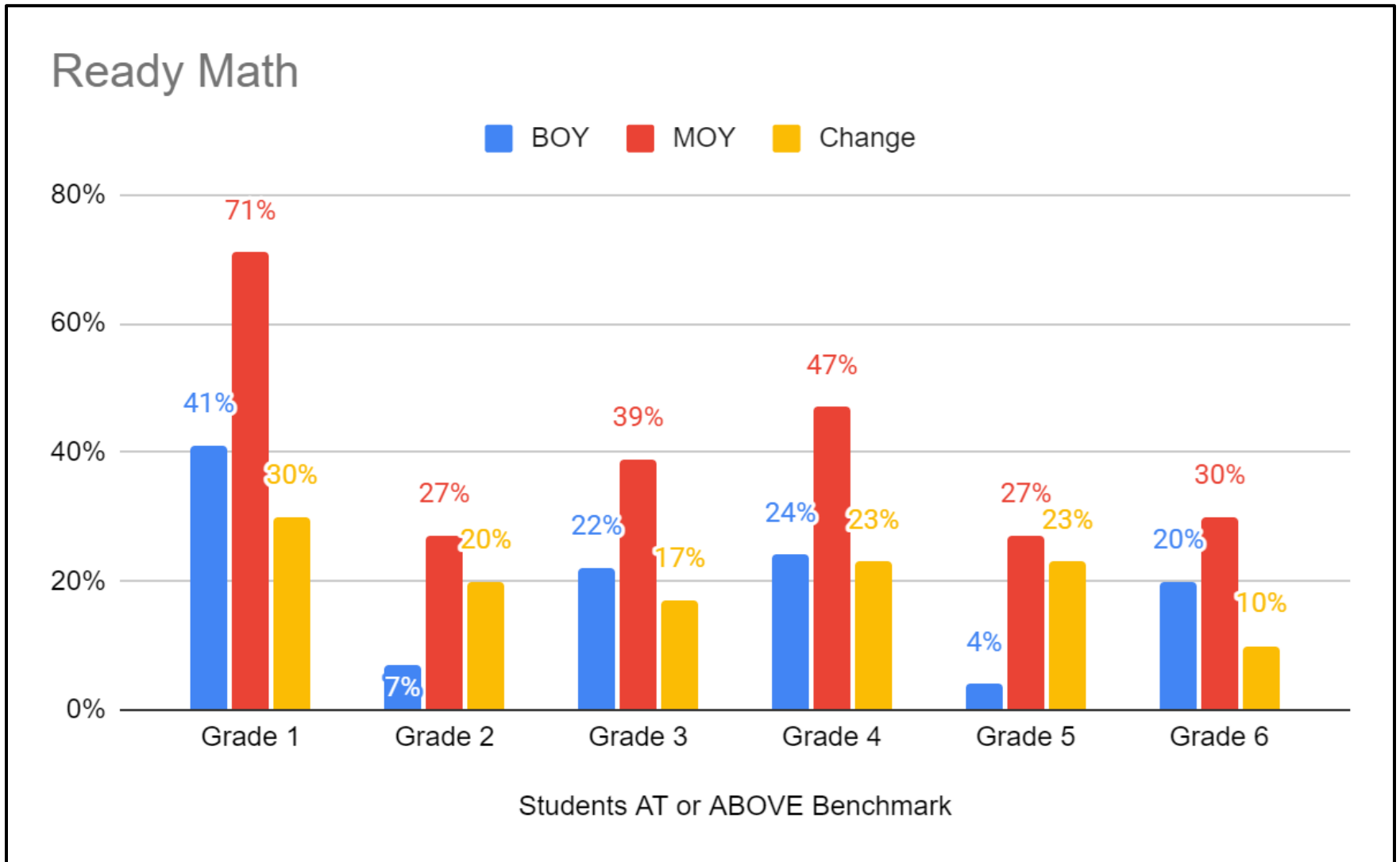
# Early Literacy Data - SY 2023-2024



# Reading Data -- SY 2023 - 2024



# Math Data - SY 2023 - 2024



# Curriculum and Instructional Strategies:

- To provide Kindergarten students with supplemental reading support with a Title I Teacher in phonemic awareness (Heggerty)
- To provide targeted students with supplemental mathematics and reading support with a Title I Interventionist
- To provide teachers with supplemental instructional materials to provide in-time supports for targeted students

# Title I Support & Materials

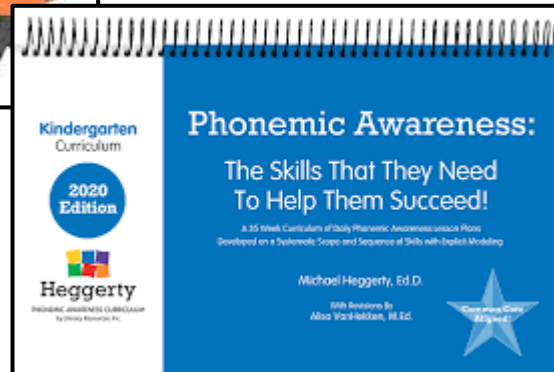
**Tracey Smith**

Title 1

Interventionist

[tracy.smith@petershamcenterschool.org](mailto:tracy.smith@petershamcenterschool.org)

Provides supplemental instruction 1:1 and in small groups for targeted students in reading and math during the school day





# Assessment:

- We assess all students in Grades K-6 using the STAR Early Literacy/Reading and the iReady Math assessment 3x per year: BOY, MOY, & EOY
- We assess all students in Grades K-6 using the mClass DIBELS 8 assessment: BOY, MOY, & EOY
- We will monitor students' attendance with the use of a new data dashboard (Open Architects) to ensure that all students receive adequate instructional time

# 2023: DESE Accountability Level

## 2023 Official Accountability Report - Petersham Center

Organization Information	
<b>DISTRICT NAME</b> Petersham (02340000)	<b>TITLE I STATUS</b> Title I School
<b>SCHOOL</b> Petersham Center (02340005)	<b>GRADES SERVED</b> K,01,02,03,04,05,06
<b>REGION</b> West/Central	<b>FEDERAL DESIGNATION</b> -

### Accountability Information

**Overall classification** Not requiring assistance or intervention

### Reason for classification

School of Recognition

Progress toward improvement targets	Accountability percentile
86% - Meeting or exceeding targets	54

As part of its annual accountability reporting process, the Department identifies a small number of *Schools of Recognition*. These schools demonstrate high achievement and high growth and meet or exceed accountability targets.

# Title I Parent Notification Requirements

# Parent Involvement Policy

- The Petersham Center 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

## Petersham Center School

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P.O. Box 680, 507 South Main Street • Orange, Massachusetts 01364

Dr. Elizabeth Zielinski  
Superintendent of Schools  
Tel: (978) 544-6763  
Fax: (978) 544-3450

### **School-Parent/Guardian Compact**

The Petersham Center 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 Petersham Center School is now a School-Wide Title I Program, based on the percentage of economically disadvantaged students in the district, all are eligible for Title I services and all students that are receiving supplemental Title I instruction are receiving a copy of this compact.

This compact is in effect during school year 2023-2024

### **School Responsibilities:**

# 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 elementary teacher who is licensed (PreK-2) that is teaching a Grade 3; 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
  - Open House
  - Family Nights
  - 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

PD in Math Intervention



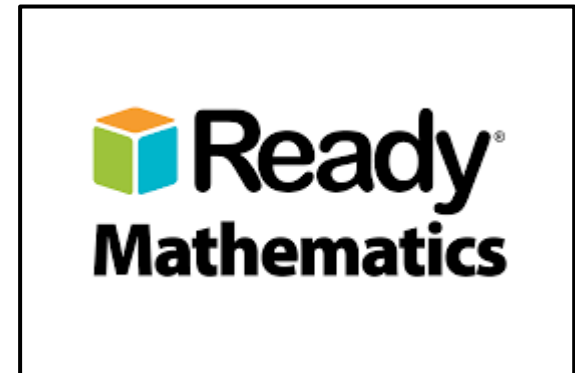
ELL Support



STEM



PD in Core Math Program



Social Emotional Learning

# Title IV

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

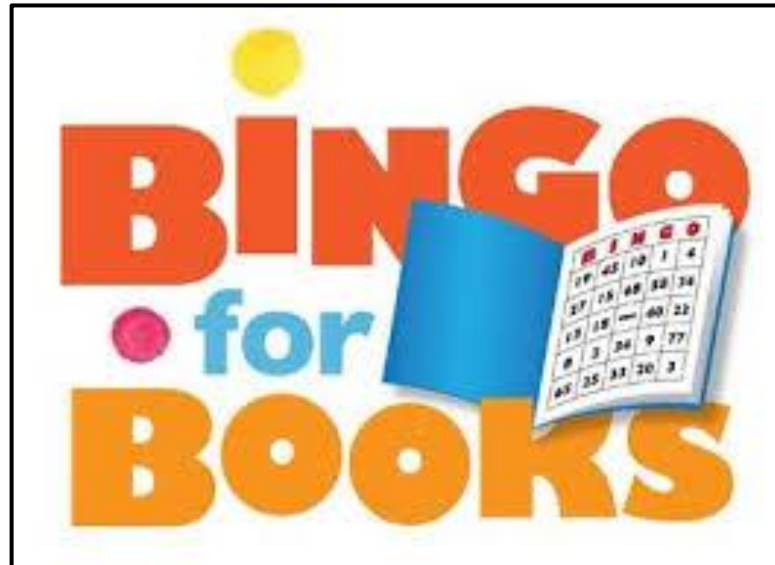
## Priorities of Title IV, Part A – Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE):

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

# Title IV Sponsored Individuals and Materials



## Arts Integration



## Family Engagement Activities

Questions?

# Contact Information

Marie Cole,  
Director of Curriculum/Grants

[mcole@rcmahar.org](mailto:mcole@rcmahar.org)

(978) 544-2542 x214

Petersham Center School  
% Ralph C. Mahar Regional School  
507 South Main Street, PO Box 680  
Orange, MA 01364-0680