



# *Neshaminy School District*

2001 Old Lincoln Highway • Langhorne, Pennsylvania 19047-3295

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Gloria Hancock, Ed. D.  
Acting Superintendent of Schools

Albert Schweitzer Elementary School is now a Schoolwide Title 1 School

## What is a Title 1 Schoolwide Program

October 16, 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians:

During the 2014-15 school year, Albert Schweitzer Elementary School applied to the Pennsylvania Department of Education to move from a Title 1 “Targeted Assistance” school to a Schoolwide Title 1 School. A Schoolwide Title 1 Program is a method of delivering Title 1 services that allows the school to address the educational needs of all students in a school community. In a Schoolwide model, Title 1 services can provide comprehensive strategies for improving the entire school such that every student can achieve at high levels of academic proficiency.

One of the benchmark qualifications for achieving Schoolwide status is an economic disadvantage of 40% or greater of the school population. Since Schweitzer does not meet this benchmark, we were required to apply for a waiver of this qualification. We were granted this waiver from the Department of Education, allowing us to proceed with our application for Schoolwide status.

Schoolwide programs have the latitude to determine how to organize their operations and allocate the multiple funding sources available to them. They do not have to identify particular students as eligible for services (this identification of individual students is required in a Targeted Assistance Model). Because Schoolwide programs can use all allocated funds to meet the needs of all children, Schoolwide programs can embrace high quality curricular goals and programs identified in our Schoolwide comprehensive plan to ensure that all students meet Pennsylvania’s challenging academic standards.

Schoolwide programs serve all students in the school. All staff, resources and classes are part of the overall Schoolwide Program. The purpose is to generate high levels of academic achievement in core subject areas for all students. This purpose is achieved through high quality instruction and programming based on the use of scientifically based research, strategies and methods to improve teacher development.

Some students simply need more time or alternative teaching methodologies. Some students need direct and explicit instruction in order to succeed. Classroom teachers and Title 1 staff will use data from diagnostic assessments, benchmark assessments and evidence of classroom

performance to determine those students showing the greatest need. Students showing the greatest need and who are not receiving special education services are served first.

How are parents involved in the process?

- First, parents are notified about Title 1 services.
- Parents, teachers and students sign a compact that indicates the shared responsibilities of the school, the child and the parents and the goals for success.
- Parents are encouraged to participate in school activities and meetings.
- Parents may participate in Title 1 meetings and learning opportunities.
- Parents are also provided Title 1 information via newsletters, conferences and parent improvement plans.

What can parents do?

- Please share a love of learning and set a good example by reading, practicing math facts, playing with money (identify coins/make change), writing letters and lists, etc.
- Make learning fun by playing educational games, visiting the library and listening to and talking with your child.
- Show an interest in your child's school day by asking specific questions and praising effort and improvement.

Eligible students and their families will receive the Title 1 compact directly from Mrs. Gross.

We welcome your feedback and ideas about our Title 1 Services. We look forward to delivering our Title 1 services schoolwide. This will be a great benefit to our students.

Sincerely,

Clarke R. Stoneback  
Principal