





2023-2024

Annual Title I Meeting



- ☐ Believe Memphis Academy
- ☐ Head of School – Matt Cowan

Revised – July 2023

What will I learn?

- What is a Title I school?
- What are my rights?
- What can Title I funds be used for?
- How does our school use Title I funds?
- What is the SIP?
- What are our schoolwide program goals?
- How is parent and family engagement funded?
- What is the Parent and Family Engagement Policy?
- What is the School-Parent Compact?
- What curriculum does our school use?
- Student-Family Handbook
- What tests will my child be taking?
- How can I be involved?
- Who can I contact for help?

What is ESEA?

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) requires that each Title I school hold an annual meeting of Title I families in order to:

- Title I is the largest federal aid program for our nation's schools.
- The goal of Title I is to provide a high-quality education for every child.
- Resources are directed to schools with high poverty levels
- Title I program serves millions of children in elementary & secondary schools each year.
- Shelby County Schools has over 200 schools operating under the ESEA program (this includes charter schools).



What is a Title I School?

Title I was passed in 1965 under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). It is the largest federal assistance program for our nation's schools.

Title I schools receive extra funding (Title I dollars) from the federal government. These dollars are used to

- identify students experiencing academic difficulties and provide assistance to help these students
- purchase additional staff, programs, materials, and/or supplies
- conduct parent and family engagement meetings, trainings, events, and/or activities.



What can funds be used for?

In general, Title I funds may be used for:

- smaller class sizes
- additional teachers and paraprofessionals
- additional training for school staff
- extra time for instruction (before and/or after school programs)
- parent and family engagement activities
- a variety of supplemental teaching materials, equipment, and technology.



What can funds be used for?

Believe Memphis Academy is a federally funded schoolwide ESEA school.

- ESEA requires that schools create a positive & supportive learning environment that results in high levels of achievement for all students.
- Funds are available at our school for academic programs & strategies, additional teachers, & other personnel, staff development, materials & supplies, technology & parent training.
- It is our goal to ensure that Believe Memphis Academy students receive a quality education. ESEA helps reinforce that commitment by helping us provide additional resources for our school.



How does Believe Use these Funds?

In 2023-24, our school was allotted approximately \$235,000 in Title I funding.

We developed a **Schoolwide Program**, which means we plan to spend our funds on the following:

Supplemental staff:

- Tiered Support Specialists for each homeroom
- Dean of Culture
- Dedicated Literacy Lab teachers

Programs/Materials/Supplies:

- i-Ready Math
- Reading diagnostics
- Improvements toward technology



Parental Involvement

Believe Memphis Academy are continuing to grow & make gain academically. With new, more rigorous state academic standards & assessments for grades k-8; there have been & will be more changes in our measures of achievement.

As part of ESEA, parental involvement is required in the educational process. Research has shown that effective parental involvement leads to higher academic for children.

The participation of parents in a regular, two-way meaningful communication involving student academic learning & other school activities, including ensuring:

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- That parents are full partners in their child's education & are included, as appropriate, in decision-making & on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;
- That other activities are carried out, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA Parental Involvement.



Family Engagement Plan

Parents will be given an opportunity to review the Believe Memphis Academy Family Engagement Plan. The purpose of this document is to establish the expectation for parental involvement at Believe.

Our goal is to prepare parents to be knowledgeable of the skills & information needed to help their children to be successful in school & to establish the expectation for parental involvement.

This policy has been jointly developed & agreed upon by Believe Memphis Academy parents, school administration, & staff. Parents will receive a copy of our Family Engagement Plan.



School Compact

Parents will also be given an opportunity to review the Believe Memphis Academy School Compact. This document is an agreement between the parent, student, teacher, & principal aimed at helping our students to achieve if everyone does his/her part.

The compact is designed to emphasize the importance of the shared responsibility of students, teachers, & parents as it relates to setting high expectations & academic goals for our students.

The compact was developed collaboratively with parents, school administration, & staff. Parents will receive a copy of our School Compact.



Student Handbook Parents' Right to Know

During Orientation/Registration Nights, parents will electronically sign the 2023-24 Student Handbook for Believe Memphis Academy. Within this handbook, it will contain the Student Code of Conduct, behavioral/disciplinary actions, and other necessary information to have our students and families at their best when coming to our school.

As a Title I school, we must ensure that our parents are aware that there is certain ESEA "Parents' Right to Know" information & information about teacher qualifications that we must make known to you according to Federal Law.

Parents will receive a copy of our Parent's Right to Know & Student Handbook.



The School Improvement Plan (TSIP) includes:

- the identification of the school planning team and how they will be engaged in the planning process;
- a needs assessment and summary of academic and non-academic data;
- prioritized goals, strategies, and action steps to help address the academic and non-academic needs of students;
- teacher and staff professional development needs; and
- budgets and the coordination of resources.

The school must include family representatives on our school planning team.



***The district Parent and Family Engagement Policy
can be requested anytime via:***

- ***Email***
- ***Phone***
- ***Website (Coming Soon)***



What curriculum does our school use?

- The Tennessee Academic Standards provide a common set of expectations for what students will know and be able to do at the end of a grade for each subject area.
- Tennessee's academic standards form the framework for everything taught at Believe Memphis Academy.
- For more information about Tennessee's academic standards, see: <https://www.tn.gov/education/districts/academic-standards.html>

What tests will my child be taking?

- Screener Tests to place them in their proper Math and Literacy Spiraled Groups to maximize their growth
- Interim Assessments preparing students for the TCAP
- Students will take the TCAP at the end of the year
- Believe Memphis Academy has been a TVAAS Level 5 school consistently.

- Strongly Encouraging Attendance
- Monitoring grades and schoolwork
- Attending family events, meetings, & conferences
- Keeping up to date through flyers and mass texts
- Keeping up with the Believe Newsletter
- Read & Maintain the Student-Family Handbook
- Attend Donuts & Coffee with the Head of School

Who can I contact for help?

- Call the front office at: [901-881-7970](tel:901-881-7970)
- To reach the Head of School, ask for Mr. Matt Cowan
- To reach the school counselor, ask for Ms. Lauren Reed
- To reach your child's teacher, call the front office or view our staff directory at believememphisacademy.org



THANK YOU!

