

August 28, 2023

Dear Parents,

As you may know, Title I is a federally funded program for students who need additional support to meet the state's high academic standards. The goal of Title I is to identify students, give them assistance in the regular classroom when possible, provide interventions to enhance academic skills, and to increase student achievement so that students can be 100% successful in the classroom.

DeSmet will administer a schoolwide Title I program. Under a schoolwide program, all students are eligible to receive academic support.

DeSmet Public Schools utilize several educationally related formats to identify students who need additional academic support. These include, but are not limited to the SBAC Interim Assessments, DIBELS, teacher referrals, etc. We would like to point out that Title I is not designed to be a permanent identification or placement. My goal is to get students academically proficient as quickly as possible! Once we *ensure* that a student is proficient, we discontinue the support but continue to monitor their progress to make sure they stay on a successful academic track.

Federal guidelines require that all schools receiving Title I funds to develop and distribute a School-Parent Compact (attached). The Compact is an agreement among participants working together for a common goal. Teachers, students, and parents all have a responsibility to contribute to the effort to establish an effective climate for learning for all students. This Compact outlines the role of each group in an effort to provide a high quality education for our students. Please read through the attached Compact with your child, sign, and return the form to your student's teacher.

Thank you for being an active participant in your child's education! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I am more than happy to answer all questions or concerns that you may have.

Sincerely,

Carly Aho

Carly Aho
Title I Director
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