



Woodlands Elementary School

Title I Parent Meeting
August 23, 2018 – 6:00 pm

This is the eighth year for Woodlands Elementary to receive Title I funds.

Title I funding focuses on closing the achievement gap between all students, regardless of their socio-economic status. With this funding we are able to employ a part-time Instructional Coach to assist teachers in improving instruction and resources for reading and math. On Procedure and Technology Night your students' teachers introduced you to the curriculum to be used this year, including *Journeys* reading and our new math curriculum, *My Math*. One full-time intervention assistant, funded with Title monies, will work closely with the classroom teachers with small groups of students using resources purchased with Title I funds. An additional Title I assistant provides intensive Tier III intervention to students that are significantly behind in reading and/or math but do not qualify for special education services.

To be eligible to receive Title I funds, at least 40% of our students must qualify for free or reduced lunches. If that percentage falls below 40% for two consecutive years, we move from School-Wide status to Targeted status, which means significantly less funding and only specific students can be served. Last year 35% of our students qualified for free and reduced lunches, which is below the required 40%. If we fall below 40% again this year, we will lose significant funding next year. That's where we need your help. We have already lost one Title I assistant this year because of reduced funding. We can't afford to lose more. We are asking every family to fill out an application for free and reduced lunches in the next 2-3 weeks, even if you do not think your family will qualify. You might be surprised, and if you qualify, it will help you out AND it will help Woodlands.

Woodlands utilizes two primary assessments throughout the year. STAR assessments will be given a minimum of five times. While kindergarten only takes the reading assessment, grades 1-5 take reading and math. These assessments measure student academic growth throughout the school year and identify areas of need. Our benchmark is for students to score at grade level or above. The OSTP (Oklahoma School Testing Program) is given to 3rd-5th graders, and our goal is for students to score at or above the proficient level.

Parental Involvement is a key element of Title I schools. It is a proven fact that parental involvement increases student achievement and decreases behavior issues. Title I emphasizes five types of parental involvement. These are attendance (getting your students to school each day), volunteering, learning at home, decision making, and collaborating with the community. Woodlands has always had strong parental support which is evident in Procedure Night, Family Fun Night, Wednesday Express communication folders, 100% participation for Parent/Teacher Conferences, Math & Literacy Nights, All-School Track Meet, and many other activities. The policy and practice of Ponca City Schools in general and Woodlands in particular is that our parents have access to individual classrooms and up-to-date information on our website. The positive attitude that permeates our building makes our teachers and support staff approachable and helpful to all.

We are grateful to have you, as parents, and your children as a part of our 2018-2019 school year. We are excited to begin this new school year as we help our Wildcats develop an "I Can!" attitude and to R.O.A.R.!