



Maryland on May 29, 2012 received from the U.S. Department of Education flexibility from some provisions of No Child Left Behind, the most recent version of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This waiver makes fundamental changes to the way the State implements school improvement going forward. The plan aligns with Maryland's long-range education priorities and goals designed to produce graduates who are college-and career-ready.

**No Child Left Behind focused on strengthening schools through a continuum of sanctions known as the School Improvement Process. That system is no longer part of Maryland's accountability system, nor is its measuring system known as Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). It has been replaced by the Maryland School Performance/Progress Index, which has high expectations for all schools, but focuses particular attention on the State's lowest-performing schools.**

**Garrett County Schools  
Title I  
Complaint Procedures**

If an individual or an organization believes that the federal Title I regulations are not being followed, an individual or organization has the right to file a written complaint to the Superintendent of the Garrett County Public Schools.

The written complaint shall include:

- A statement that the public agency has violated a requirement in the federal Title I regulations
- The facts upon which statement is based

This must include any documentation supporting the allegation(s). Complaints must be filed within one (1) year of the date that the alleged violation occurred, unless a longer period is reasonable because the violation is continuing. The Garrett County Public Schools is to investigate and issue its findings within 60 calendar days of receipt of the written complaint. The Garrett County Public Schools may permit an extension of the 60 days timeline only if exceptional circumstances exist regarding a particular complaint. For more information or to view the complete procedure, contact the GCPS Title I Office.



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**GARRETT COUNTY  
SCHOOLS**

**Title I**

**Parental Rights**



**2015-2016  
School Year**

# Title I Schools' Parental Rights

Under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB), parents whose children attend Title I schools have certain rights. This brochure will attempt to explain those rights for you.

You have the right to:

- 1) Know the professional qualifications of the classroom and specialist teachers who instruct your child.



- 2) **Know whether Instructional Assistants provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.**

Title I is a federal program designed to provide support to students, Pre-K to 5, in areas of Reading and Math. This is supplemental funding made available to qualifying schools according to Free and Reduced (FARMS) eligibility. The Title I mission is to have parents, families, educators, and community members working together as partners, sharing the accountability and desire to improve the achievement of all students.

Each school develops, with parent input, the Home/School Compact. It outlines expectations for teachers, parents and students in order to focus on increasing the academic achievement of all students. Teachers review the compact with students and parents during the school year.



Garrett County Public Schools regard parents as important team members. Research has shown that academic success is positively impacted when parents become involved in their child's education. All Title I schools implement the Garrett Co. Public Schools Parent Involvement Policy. In addition, each school develops, with parent input, a Parent Involvement Plan.

Parents have the right to be involved in deciding how **Title I funds** are allocated at the district, and school level.

Title I funds are reserved to support children experiencing homelessness. Garrett County Public Schools has a process for using these funds to assist homeless families.

Title I schools are required to annually revise their **School Improvement Plan (SIP)**. Parents and representatives of the community are encouraged to participate, and/or offer feedback on the finished SIP.

Together, we can make sure our students meet the challenges they are faced with daily, to prosper in the global community of the 21st century.

If you have questions, please contact:

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