






TITLE I e-NEWS

 March 20, 2024 | Volume 1, Issue 2 

Welcome back to our second installment of *Title I e-News*. Thank you for taking your time to engage! It is a great way to foster two-way communication and create space for collaboration. Help me create the content you need by completing the [2023-2024 Title I Leadership Survey](#). It will close 3/28. We will use the results for 2024-2025 planning.

 In this issue...

1. Two-Way Communication
2. USDE Updates
3. District Share & Upcoming Events: Family Engagement and Communication
4. Statute Spotlight: LEA Plans
5. Virtual Meet and Greet Recap



Two-Way Communication

In addition to this Listserv, there are other ways we can connect to provide help and support. The following are some ways we are trying to keep the field connected.

- **Technical Assistance** Request time to connect by reaching out directly by phone or email, or to schedule a call, on-site visit, or TEAMS meeting via my [booking calendar](#).
- **Virtual Collaboration time** Our next session will be held on April 24, 2024 from 12:00 to 1:00 EST on the topic of [Family Engagement and Communication](#). Our guest speakers submitted promising practices (see item 4) and are eager to share their insight! Registration is capped at 45, so register soon. Meetings are not recorded, although key ideas and summaries are included in Title I e-News (see item 6). Plan ahead and also register for our session on May 29, 2024– [End of Year Reflections & Celebrations: Planning and Application Updates for 24-25](#)

United States Department of Education (USDE) Updates

- The White House has sent a proposed 2025 budget to Congress, which includes an increase of about 1.1% increase for Title I. ED Secretary Dr. Miguel Cardona issued a statement on the proposed budget which can be found [here](#). Stay tuned for more, as I will send an update when appropriations are finalized.
- The federal government has recently released guidance on using Title I Part A funding for Preschool programming. The Dear Colleague letter outlining this guidance is linked [here](#). A brief summary of the guidance is provided by the Bruman group in the following [blog post](#).

District Share-Out

Thank you, those individuals who submitted "promising practices", on how their LEA meets the requirements of 1116 (C) (4) of ESSA, as requested in last month's Promising Practice Spotlight. Your collaboration uplifts the field. Submissions are highlighted in upcoming Title I e-News and may be included in virtual collaboration agendas. As a thank you, you will also receive an electronic certificate of appreciation and the satisfaction of knowing you may have helped a colleague!



MPS Curriculum Website

submitted by Gail Dahling-Hench, Assistant Superintendent, Madison Public Schools

The MPS curriculum website is one way that MPS meets the obligation outlined in section 1116 (C) (4) of ESSA. This website highlights the instructional program, and alignment to the competencies students need to be career ready. Ms. Dahling-Hench also shared the importance of district systems that help support transparency and usability of curriculum. Madison also supports accessibility for their website through a program called Audio Eye. Attend our virtual collaboration on Family Engagement on April 24, 2024 to hear more. You can view the website at <https://www.madison.k12.ct.us/district/curriculum-instruction>.

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Grade 3 February Family Memo

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Hello Grade 3 Families,

We are Jillan Romann, the district Elementary STEM Supervisor, Azra Redic, the district Elementary Humanities Supervisor, and Kristy Ricciardone, the district Supervisor of Climate, Culture and Student Supports. Our goal this year is to share with families information related to upcoming units of study in Math, Literacy, Science/Social Studies and Social Emotional Learning. We will share the math, literacy, science/ social studies, SEL family materials that coordinate with each unit students are studying during the month. You will receive these messages monthly in order to provide information on the current/upcoming unit of study. We welcome you to reach out to your child's teacher, math/literacy coach, or directly to us if you have any questions.

Scholars will also practice determining perspective. Some of the texts scholars will be reading include the following:

Social Studies

The State Department of Education recently released the new Social Studies standards and Social Studies Framework. EPS will be reviewing and analyzing the new framework this year. However, for the remainder of the year EPS will pilot the following unit in Social Studies.

For the month of February, scholars will pilot their second unit in Social Studies. Scholars may be studying any of the following topics centered around: Structure and Function of State and Local Government.

Some of the questions scholars may be working through could include:

- How are governmental decisions made at the state and local levels?
- Why is the Connecticut State Capitol significant?
- What are the symbolic representations of Connecticut?
- What resources exist in our community and state?
- What are the three branches of government?
- What are the responsibilities of each branch?
- What are the symbolic representations of Bristol?
- Who are the leaders of Bristol?
- How does our town/city contribute to Connecticut's history?
- How has our local community contributed to Connecticut's story past and present?
- What is Connecticut's state identity and in what ways is that identity inclusive of all residents?

Social Emotional Learning "Perseverance Is Power"

This month is all about **Perseverance**. One way to think about **Perseverance** is "pushing yourself through challenges and obstacles." We all experience challenges in our lives. We all have moments when we feel like we can't do it or that we want to give up on a big task. It's important to develop tools that help us work through those challenges in order to grow in those moments instead of giving up. How might you practice **Perseverance** as a family this month? **Perseverance** is 1 of 3 traits we will

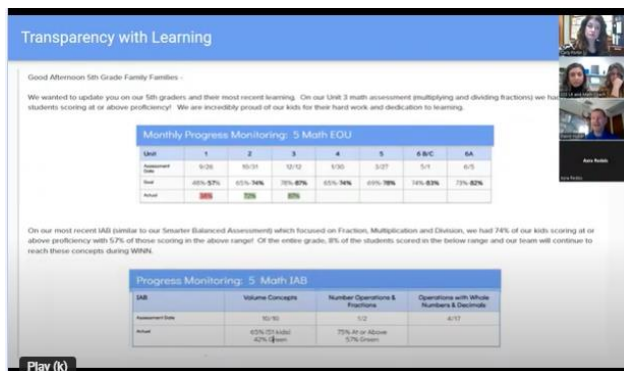
Bristol Public Schools Family Newsletter, Grade 3, February 2023, 3/6

Monthly learning Update Memos

Submitted by Carly Fortin, Chief Academic Officer, Bristol Public Schools.

"Through monthly memos, we highlight what children will be learning by grade level. We've found that our families look forward to receiving these memos and use them as a tool when communicating with their child and their child's teacher about learning happening each month. We have found that most families prefer to access information via their inbox and do not visit their school or our district webpage regularly (except to search for specific information). We

use Parent Square to distribute the family memo, which allows families to translate our messages and many of our documents into their home language."



Virtual Meetings for Two-Way Communication

submitted by Carly Fortin on behalf of Dr. Huber, Principal of South Side Elementary School, Bristol Public Schools

"In order to ensure all families are aware of the progress our students in our school are making, we began sending home a summary of assessment data after each major ELA and Math assessment. We would provide information on what was on the assessment, how the students did, and how we would be responding to the data collectively, as a grade-level and school support team. Additionally, to capitalize on a lesson learned during Covid - we could access more families through Zoom meetings, so we began holding quarterly 'State of the School Meetings.' These 30-minute meetings took place either during the day or at 7pm and provided all families an overview of the progress of our school as well as an opportunity to ask questions about the teaching, learning, or climate at South Side School..." To hear more, join us on April 24 for our virtual collaboration.

Please note, our norms indicate we do not share attachments so as not to activate SPAM filters, so screen shots are provided. If you wish to view additional materials, please email jennifer.murphy@ct.gov

Statute Spotlight: Local Education Agency plans

"In order to receive a subgrant, Local Education Agencies must submit a plan, approved by the State educational agency, that—(A) is developed with timely and meaningful consultation with teachers, principals, other school leaders, paraprofessionals, specialized instructional support personnel, charter school leaders (in a local educational agency that has charter schools), administrators (including administrators of programs described in other parts of this title), other appropriate school personnel, and with parents of children in schools served under this part..."

-ESSA, Title I Part A, Section 1112 (a) (1) (A)

Timely and Meaningful Consultation to develop a Local Education Agency Plan

Each issue, we will spotlight a component of the legislation with the goal of sharing ideas for meeting the outlined Title I requirement. How does your LEA meet the requirements outlined Section 1112 (a) (1) (A) (above). Section B also outlines coordination with other grants (Perkins, McKinney-Vento, etc.) Use the questions below, or your experience, to share insight with us on "timely and meaningful consultation" to develop your plan. Not only will you help

your colleagues, but you may also be featured in *Title I e-News*.

Teachers, Principals, and School Leaders

- Who provides insight from your building leadership teams on the design of the Title I programming?
- What systems are in place to foster meaningful collaboration to set goals and priorities for your program?
- How have you gone above and beyond "checking the box" and seen an impact?

Specialized Instructional Support Personnel, Families, and Community Partners

- In large LEAs, how do you design ways to stay connected and coherent?
- In small LEAs, how to you define roles and communicate those roles for individuals wearing many hats?
- How do you ensure everyone has a seat at the table?
- What voices have you amplified in recent iterations of your plan, and how?
- Where did you find room for improvement, and what have you done to remove barriers?

Sharing is Caring!

If you or someone in your district has ideas about these or any other related questions, please consider sharing!

[SUBMIT A PROMISING PRACTICE](#)

[GIVE FEEDBACK ON TITLE I e-NEWS](#)

[CONTACT ME](#)

March 27, 2024 Virtual Meet & Greet Recap

Top Five things you missed from our Virtual meet and greet...

1. **Check ins!** We made connections with people in similar settings, or with complementary experiences.
2. **Affinity Groups:** We selected affinity groups related to Academics, Talent, Climate/Culture, and Fiscal and had time to connect with each other on topics of interest.
3. **Technical Assistance** We reviewed ways LEAs can access support for virtual or online help with their programs.
4. **Q & A** We set aside time to discuss your questions. These questions will be housed eventually on the website FAQ section, so keep them coming!
5. **Closing and debrief** Many reported that the session was helpful. We will include more time for affinity groups in future meetings.

Listserve Title I e-News is sent monthly for coordinators, curriculum directors, central office program administrators, and others responsible for LEA oversight of Title I programs. I abridge this information to meet the needs of Fiscal contacts, Schoolwide program leaders, and Targeted Assistance program leaders. In between issues, I may send out a news brief if something is timely. You can also post a question to our Listserve by emailing the Listserve email address (available to those signed up).

Norms for Listserve Collaboration

Respect: We foster an inclusive community where individuals are valued and respected.

Relevance: We ensure topics and discussions are appropriate and related to Title I part A programs.

No Spam: We refrain from sharing of promotional materials or sales pitches.

Privacy: We agree not to disclose personally identifiable student information or district financial/personnel information.

Legality: We only post related to legal, allowable activities and abide by all applicable laws.

Attachments: We avoid sending attachments and files via the Listserv.

Read Before Posting: We support the group (and keep inboxes tidy!) by reading all comments in the string or archive before posting to avoid duplication.

Non-Endorsement: This Listserv is a forum for collaboration and two-way communication. District share-outs and information from community partners should not be construed as a recommendation or endorsement of a particular program by CSDE.