

# TITLE I FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

## *Planting the Seeds For Student Success*

*Our Mission Statement: The Hampton City Schools Title I Family Engagement Program strives to collaborate with schools and the community to support school goals, empower families, and increase student academic and social success.*



Back row (left-right): Mrs. Charnita Clements (Lindsay Middle), Mrs. Carita Henderson (Booker Elementary), Ms. April Howard (Andrews PreK-8), Mrs. Amy Killian (Tyler Elementary), Mrs. Diane Campbell (Bassette Elementary), Mrs. Sheri Anderson (Syms Middle), Ms. Helema Vandivier (Bryan Elementary), Ms. Adrienne Woods (Machen Elementary), and Mrs. Casey Charette (Forrest Elementary). First row (left-right): Mrs. Kim Debnam-Tatum (Aberdeen Elementary), Mrs. Stephanie Cartwright (Davis Middle), Ms. Chanda Epps (Title I Coordinator of Family Engagement), Mrs. Regina Ryan-Williams (Smith Elementary), and Mrs. Sybil Gordon (Cary Elementary).

The Hampton City Schools (HCS) Title I Program is dedicated to providing quality education for every student. To accomplish this goal, we strive to develop and maintain partnerships with parents and community members. The HCS Title I Family Engagement Program is committed to engaging parents and community partners in all aspects of children's learning experiences. Students and parents will be provided opportunities to help ensure their child's academic success through the development and enhancement of home and school partnerships.

To ensure effective engagement of parents/guardians, and to support a partnership among the school and community, every Title I school has on staff a Family Engagement Specialist leading the school's Family Engagement Program and managing the Family Resource Center.

An essential component of the program is to provide numerous volunteer and leadership opportunities for parents/guardians and community/business partners to be engaged in the school community. This program actively promotes services and resources available to families and also recruits parents/guardians, volunteers and community/business partners that reflect the diversity of our school district.

## 2016-2017

### Program Initiatives

- G.R.O.W. Visits & Meetings
- Using Technology to Engage Families
- Community Engagement: Working Together for Student Success
- Title I Literacy Initiative: Anywhere, Anytime Learning
- Volunteer Programs

### District Events

- 5th Annual S.E.E.D.S “Back-to-School Kick-off” Family & Community Resource Fair
- “Around the Library in One Night” Family Literacy Event
- Annual Title I Parent & Community Advisory Council Meeting
- 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Promoter of Excellence Reception
- Annual Title I Parent Survey
- 11th Annual Title I Family Learning Project Event at the Virginia Air & Space Center
- VA Arts Festival “Family Field Trips”

## Spotlight on Family Engagement Specialist (FES): Mrs. Carita Henderson



Congratulations to Mrs. Carita Henderson, Family Engagement Specialist at Booker Elementary School, for being awarded the 2016 Dr. Michael Canty Memorial Award for Parent Involvement. She was nominated for this award by Booker’s PTA because of “her ongoing support and passion for the children and parents of Booker Elementary School.”

### What is a Family Engagement Specialist?

The Family Engagement Specialist collaborates with the school staff to:

- Plan, coordinate, and implement Family Engagement Program at each Title I school.
- Serve as a liaison and provide support to parents/guardians prior to and/or during school meetings, such as School Intervention Team (SIT) or Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
- Recruit parents and representatives from school, business and community agencies to participate on the school’s Action Team for Partnerships.
- Create flyers and other marketing materials to promote events and the Family Resource Center.
- Promote parent and community volunteerism.
- Cultivate community partnerships with faith-based organizations, businesses, and non-profit organizations that offer services to meet the needs of families.
- Conduct G.R.O.W. visits and meetings as a means to build relationships with parents and to provide additional academic support/resources.
- Coordinate family events and parent workshops that support school goals and address key academic areas of focus.

## 2016 Title I Promoters of Excellence

### 2016 Volunteers & Community Partners of the year:

*Mrs. La'Toya Smith-Polynice*  
Parent Volunteer

*Mr. Darius Swift*  
Community Volunteer

*Hampton Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.*  
Community Partner



### 2016 Title I District-level Honorees:

*First Baptist Church of Hampton*  
Faith-Based Partner

*Mobile Dentists*  
Community Partner

*Old Point National Bank*  
Community Partner



# Title I Literacy Project: Anywhere, Anytime, Learning

Through the collaboration of Title I Instruction & Family Engagement, this literacy project aims to engage students, parents, schools, and community partners by using technology and interactive activities that promote literacy and student academic achievement.

- Research strongly indicates that parents' educational interactions with their children at home have a more significant, positive effect on student learning outcomes than most types of parent engagement in school.
- Studies suggest that the most effective strategy for parents is engaging in collaborative homework and educational activities in the home.
- The implications for schools is to create more collaborative homework and enrichment activities to send home with students, and to hold family math, literacy or science nights at school to support parent engagement at home.
- Schools should also provide enrichment materials and create lending libraries. (Source: Fairman & Mason, 2015)

The Anywhere, Anytime Learning website will showcase our Hampton City Schools Title I schools and families engaging in anywhere, anytime learning at home, in the library, and while on vacation. This site also provides literacy resource links and information about free and/or low-cost family-friendly activities that promote literacy at home and in our community.

**Visit:** <http://hcsitlei-literacyproject.weebly.com/>

## HCS Title I Home & School Compacts

As a requirement of the Title I Family Engagement Policy, the Title I Home & School Compact establishes a partnership between educators, parents, and students. For each partner, the compact identifies specific actions that will support students in reaching state proficiency levels. Federal law requires that all schools receiving Title I funds develop and implement a home and school compact.

Our home and schools compacts are grade-level specific, data-driven, and connected to the school's goals. This format focuses on the shared ownership of student achievement and engages all stakeholders in the process of developing an effective compact.

Our compacts:

- Link to the goals of the school's School Learning Plan and grade-level achievement data
- Provide strategies families can use at home to strengthen students' skills
- Are written in a family-friendly language with meaningful input from teachers, families and students

If you have questions or haven't received your school's 16/17 Home & School Compact or family engagement policy, please contact your school's Family Engagement Specialist.

## DID YOU KNOW...

- That every Title I school district and Title I school is required to have a written family engagement policy developed jointly with, and approved by parents?
- That Title I schools are responsible for holding meetings to discuss family engagement policies, programs, and activities with flexible hours designed to accommodate working parents?
- Parents must be involved in deciding how Title I funds are allotted for family engagement programs and activities?
- The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (formerly known as No Child Left Behind) provides funds for Title I schools to use to help parents/guardians better understand:
  - Virginia's student academic achievement standards,
  - Virginia's student academic assessments,
  - Title I, Part A requirements,
  - How to monitor progress, and
  - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children?

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

To create a culture within Title I schools that fosters collaboration, we will invite all parents, guardians, and community partners to join us and "engage" in enhancing student experiences in our Title I school communities by volunteering and/or supporting a school academic goal or activity.

All volunteers are required to participate in their school's Volunteer Orientation prior to volunteering, so please be sure to contact your school's family engagement specialist for more information.

### Hampton City Schools Title I Family Resource Centers

Aberdeen Elementary	825-4460
Andrews PreK-8	268-3417
Bassette Elementary	727-1731
Booker Elementary	848-2217
Bryan Elementary	727-8626
Cary Elementary	848-2374
Davis Middle	896-7562
Forrest Elementary	896-6716
Lindsay Middle	896-6601
Machen Elementary	727-2910
Smith Elementary	850-6898
Syms Middle	848-3131
Tyler Elementary	850-5086

### How to access your school's report card

Virginia's Standards of Learning accountability program includes a commitment to informing the public of the progress of schools in raising student achievement and enhancing the learning environment. Online report cards for schools, school divisions, and the Commonwealth include data on student achievement by grade, subject and student subgroup and information on other indicators of school quality. To view your school's report card visit:

<https://p1pe.doe.virginia.gov/reportcard/>

### STAY CONNECTED!

**Website:**

<http://hcstitlei.weebly.com/>

**Twitter:**

@HCS\_TitleI

**For more information about the HCS Title I Program, please contact:**

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