

# NCA Annual Title 1 Meeting

FY24 | March 2024





# WELCOME!

Thank you for joining.

## **Dr. James Keller**

Director of Public Programs,  
Grants, and Revenue

- *Federal Programs Director*
- *Title 1 Director*
- *Homeless Liaison*





# AGENDA

1. What is a Title 1 School and how does this relate to NCA?
  - a. Title 1 schoolwide program, budget, and goals.
2. A brief summary of NCA academics and testing requirements
3. Title 1 Program requirements
  - a. What is required by law for parent and family engagement?
  - b. Professional qualifications and building faculty capacity
  - c. Parent and family engagement
4. Discussion of FY24 policies for review
  - a. FY24 Parent and Family Engagement Policy
  - b. FY24 School-Parent Compact
5. Closing - Questions, Comments, Concerns



# What is a Title 1 School?



# What is a Title 1 School?

## **Title 1: Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged**

Title I was enacted in 1965 under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. It is the largest Federal Assistance Program for our nation's schools.

The purpose of Title I is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and meet and exceed state standards. It is designed to help schools help those economically disadvantaged students who may need more resources and assistance.

Title I provides federal funds through the Georgia Department of Education to school districts to support schools with at least 40% of the student population receiving free and reduced meals.

The funds are applied to supplement programs that are already in place in all schools, with the goal of providing all students with equal opportunity for achieving academic success.



# What Title 1 means for NCA

## **Title 1: Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged**

As a State Charter NCA is unique. As both a Local Educational Agency (LEA) and a school, NCA has the ability to access funding that is not offered to every single school.

The Title 1 program allows for a waiver of the 40% federal poverty requirement. This allows LEAs like NCA to access the Title 1 funding to support their disadvantaged students. Even though NCA does not have 40% of students in poverty, there are many students in need.



# What Title 1 means for NCA

## Title 1: Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged

NCA does not have a poverty rate of 40%, but it does have students in need. In its capacity as an LEA, NCA submits a waiver to take advantage of the available funding.

FY23 Poverty Percentage: 12%

FY24 Poverty Percentage: 15%

***During FY24, that meant that NCA was able to receive \$42,930.00 in Federal Funds***



# How NCA uses Title 1 Funds

Title 1 offers two formats for supporting the students in need:

- Targeted Assistance Programs
  - These programs are focused only on the students who fall within the poverty identification category. Funds can only be used for these students, and the school/LEA must track and follow that usage.
- School-Wide Assistance Programs
  - These programs allow for schools to apply funds across the whole school, allowing for more flexibility due to the expectation of high quality programming and support.

***NCA operates a school-wide program.***





# How NCA uses Title 1 Funds

Title 1 restricts what funds can be used for:

- Some examples:
  - Hiring additional teachers and other support staff
  - Purchasing supplemental (additional) instructional materials, resources, and educational programs
  - Providing professional development for teachers and staff.

***In FY24, NCA is putting its Title I funds toward the salary and benefits of one Paraprofessional/TA who serves as a literacy and math interventionist.***



# How NCA uses Title 1 Funds

To operate a school-wide program, NCA must develop a plan. NCA includes this plan in their Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP), a plan that is submitted to GADOE each year.

In that plan, each LEA sets goals through its Equity Action Plan.

## NCA's Goal 1: Literacy

***By the end of the 2023-2024 school year, every subgroup will show an overall average RIT score on the ELA section of the MAP test that is higher than the average RIT score for the subgroup from the fall administration of the MAP.***

## NCA's Goal 2: Math

***By the end of the 2023-2024 school year, every subgroup will show an overall average RIT score on the Math section of the MAP test that is higher than the average RIT score for the subgroup from the fall administration of the MAP.***



# A Brief Summary of NCA's Curriculum and Testing



# NCA's Curriculum - The Basics

- NCA's curriculum is based on Hillsdale College's *K-12 Program Guide*
- Focus on literacy and numeracy in the early years
- Explicit phonics instruction
- Singapore Math
- High School Course Catalog available on NCA website



# NCA's Testing – The Basics

Northwest Classical's primary focus is on the holistic success of our students and not just on their testing performance; however, we utilize testing as one means of supporting student improvement.

NCA uses the following assessment measures:

- In classroom, teacher-led assessment
- Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)
  - conducted in the fall and in the spring
- Georgia Milestones

Additional assessments used for specific populations:

- GKids – Kindergarten Assessment
- DIBELS – Literacy Screening (Kindergarten and EIP students)
- WIDA Screening and ACCESS Testing – ESOL identification and progress monitoring



# Title 1 Program Requirements



# Title 1 Program Requirements

*As with anything, Title 1 funding comes with some requirements that NCA must adhere to in order to use these funds.*

- **Budget set-asides**
- **Professional qualifications and a parent's right to know**
- **Parent and family engagement**
  - Title 1 parent meetings and policy input



# Title 1 – Budget Set-Asides

Title 1 has required set-asides, which are required budget line items which must be included in the Title 1 budget submitted to GADOE depending on the amount of money received.

- Homeless Set-Aside
- Parent and Family Engagement Set-Aside
- Neglected and Delinquent Set-Aside
- Private School Proportionate Share

**The only set-aside that impacts NCA in FY24 is the Homeless Set-Aside.**





# Title 1 – Homeless Set-Aside

All LEAs that receive Title 1 funds are required to set aside a portion of those funds for the support of students experiencing homelessness.

***NCA's homeless set-aside for FY24 is \$250.***

*These funds are used to ensure that students experiencing homelessness have backpacks and other essential classroom materials.*



# Title 1 - Other Set-Asides

The other set-asides have additional requirements that NCA does not qualify for:

- The Parent and Family Engagement Set-Aside requires that the Federal funds amount exceed \$500k. In that case, the LEA sets aside 1% of the funds to support parent and family engagement programming.
- As a state charter school, NCA is exempt from having to address the Neglected and Delinquent and Private School requirements.



# Title 1 – PQ and Parent’s Right to Know

- Title 1 has two requirements when it comes to the professional qualifications of teachers and a parent’s right to know.

<b>Parent’s Right to Know Notification</b> ESSA Sec. 1112€(1)(A)	<b>20 Day Notification</b> ESSA Sec. 1112€(1)(B)(ii)
<p>The Right to Know Notification informs parents that they have the Right to Know and request the Professional Qualifications of their child’s teachers and paraprofessionals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In Georgia, notification requirements apply to all LEAs and schools/programs within each LEA.</li><li>• LEAs must notify all parents annually at the start of school (within 30 calendar days of the start of school) or upon enrollment.</li><li>• LEAs must use the language of the law.</li><li>• LEAs must maintain records of the notifications.</li></ul>	<p>The 20 Day Notification informs parents when students have been assigned or taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet applicable state or licensure requirements (including professional qualifications developed by the LEA in alignment with an approved charter or strategic waiver application) at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In Georgia, notification requirements apply to all teachers in all LEAs and schools/programs within each LEA and must be sent within 10 business days following the four consecutive weeks.</li><li>• 20 Day Notifications are not required for substitutes and paraprofessionals.</li></ul>



# Title 1 – PQ and Parent’s Right to Know

- NCA notifies parents of this information through the NCA website and through a Legenda post at the beginning of each year.
- *If you ever have any questions about NCA’s Certification requirements and the professional qualifications of your child’s teacher, you have the right to ask NCA leadership for that information.*



# Title 1 – How NCA builds faculty capacity

- Ongoing faculty training during faculty meetings
- Ongoing observation and feedback through the Teacher Keys Effectiveness System
- Yearly summer training with BCSI
- Support for faculty pursuing higher degrees and attending trainings sponsored by GADOE or other qualified professional learning organizations.



# Title 1 – Parent and Family Engagement

- ESSA 1112(e)(3)(C) states that each district must implement an effective means of outreach to the parents of all ELs to inform them of how they can:
  - Be involved in the education of their children; and
  - Be active participants in assisting their children to:
    - Attain English proficiency;
    - Achieve at high levels within a well-rounded education; and
    - Meet the challenging state academic standards expected of all students.
- Implementing an effective means of outreach must include holding and sending notice of opportunities for regular meetings for the purpose of formulating and responding to recommendations from the parents of ELs.



# Title 1 – Parent and Family Engagement

- Northwest Classical Academy involves parents in the following ways:
  - Hosting Leadership Coffees with parents
  - Distributing weekly and quarterly E-newsletters (*Legenda* and *Chronicle*)
  - Regular communication from teachers
  - Utilizing ParentSquare to connect teachers, parents, and the community on a digital communication platform
  - Providing parent-teacher conferences twice each year
  - Offering a wide variety of volunteer opportunities for parents
  - Hosting an annual parent social (Spartan Soiree) and other community-building events



# Title 1 – Required Policies





# Title 1 – Required Policies

*Title 1 also has required policies and expects LEAs to elicit feedback on those policies each year.*

- **FY24 Parent and Family Engagement Policy**
- **FY24 School-Parent Compact**



# Title 1 – Parent-Family Engagement Policy

***NCA submits its Parent and Family Engagement Policy as part of the CLIP (Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan) each year.***

- The FY24 parent engagement policy was provided to you when you signed in.
- After it is updated, it is posted on the NCA Website each year.
- Please review this at your convenience.
  - Before the end of the school year, a draft of the FY25 Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be shared, and there will be a few questions in this year’s annual survey sent out to the NCA parent community to elicit feedback in the process of updating the policy.



# Title 1 – School-Parent Compact

***NCA's Handbook serves as its School-Parent Compact. The School-Parent Compact is an agreement between families and the school to adhere to a specific set of expectations and to make those expectations clear for all members of the community. The handbook is reviewed and updated as needed.***

- *The NCA Handbook is linked on the NCA website and is hosted on [NCA's BoardDocs website](#).*
- Before the end of the school year, parents will have the chance to provide feedback on the current handbook through the annual parent survey mentioned in the previous slide.



# Closing – Questions, Comments, Concerns



# Closing –

Thank you for attending this year's Title 1 meeting.

What questions do you have?



# Thank you!

## Contacts:

**Dr. Keller** – [jkeller@nwclassical.org](mailto:jkeller@nwclassical.org)

- Any questions pertaining to Title 1 funding or requirements

**Mrs. Williams** – [kwilliams@nwclassical.org](mailto:kwilliams@nwclassical.org)

- Any questions related to parent engagement opportunities at NCA

**Mr. Reger** – [mreger@nwclassical.org](mailto:mreger@nwclassical.org)

- Any questions related to NCA policies, curriculum, and testing