

Notification of Policies Title 1 Policy

Young Scholars Charter School receives federal funding through Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs. This federal program provides financial assistance to schools with high percentages of economically disadvantaged students to ensure that children meet challenging state academic standards. Since more than 40 percent of the Young Scholars student body are classified as economically disadvantaged (as determined by participation in the National School Lunch Program), Young Scholars uses Title I funding to operate a school wide program to upgrade the instructional program for the whole school. Our school wide Title I program is based on effective means of improving student achievement and includes strategies to support parental involvement. More than 50,000 public schools across the country use Title I funds to provide additional academic support and learning opportunities to help low-achieving children master challenging curricula and meet state standards in core academic subjects. For example, funds support extra instruction in reading and mathematics, as well as special preschool, after-school, and summer programs to extend and reinforce the regular school curriculum.

The Young Scholars Staff member in charge of coordinating Title I programs and funds is John Amenda, CEO, who can be contacted at (215) 232-9727.

Annual Title I Meeting: Young Scholars invites parents to attend our annual Title I information meeting, which will be announced in the Fall. At this meeting we will describe our participation in Title I, Part A programs, explain the requirement of Title I, and explain parents' right to be involved (including developing our Title I Parent Involvement Policy and Parent Compact).

Parent Rights Under Title I:

Under Title I, Part A, Young Scholars parents have the right to:

- **Be involved in our Title I, Part A programs** – Young Scholars, with the help of its parents, will develop and implement a Title I Parent Involvement Policy and a School-Parent Compact.
- **Request regular meetings** – Requests for meetings to discuss Title I programs should be put in writing and submitted to Kristen Tini, ktini@phillyscholars.org
- **Know teacher and paraprofessional qualifications** – Parents may request, and Young Scholars then will provide, certain information on the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals providing services to their children. Requests should be submitted to Kristen Tink, ktini@phillyscholars.org
- **Know non-highly qualified teachers** – Young Scholars will provide to each individual parent timely notice that the parent's child has been assigned, or taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified as defined by the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (2015).

Title I Questions

A parent who feels that the school is not meeting its Title I or other responsibilities as outlined in this policy, should first discuss the problem with Federal Programs Coordinator. Examples of violations would be such things as:

- An annual meeting was not convened by the principal to explain Title I offerings to parents.
- Parents were refused information on the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teacher. If the concern was not resolved at the school level, a parent should begin a formal Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) complaint procedure as outlined below. A complaint is defined by the Young Scholars as a written, signed statement. It must include the following:
 - A statement that PDE or Young Scholars has violated a requirement of federal statute or regulations which apply to programs under the Every Student Succeeds Act (2015).
 - The facts on which the statement is based. c. Information on any discussions, meetings or correspondence with PDE or Young Scholars regarding the complaint