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# Title I Information

McKinley Elementary

July 2023

## Background

# What is Title I Funding

- Supplemental federal funding to help meet the needs of low-achieving students in high-poverty schools  
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sw/>
- “...to provide all children significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps.” *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Title I, Part A, Section 1001*
- A school qualifies for funds based on the percentage of students who qualify for free/reduced lunch (are considered low-income) based on the Free/Reduced Lunch Application (renamed in SMMUSD to Educational Benefits Form)
- The funding is to support English Learners, low-income, at-risk (struggling academically), and homeless/foster youth.
- Funds can only be used to close the achievement gap.

## Background

# What Does Title I Fund

- Funds can only be used to close the achievement gap.
- Who receives Title I services is not based on income, it is based on academic achievement
- Expenditures are based on data- student needs

### Examples of Not-Approved Items

Items that do not directly impact closing the achievement gap:  
Campus Monitors, school supplies, assemblies, field trips

### Examples of Approved Items

Items that directly impact closing the achievement gap and student learning:  
Intervention Teacher, Teacher Professional Development, targeted curriculum materials, theater program to develop listening and speaking skills (an area of need based on data)

## Background

# Two Types of Title I Funding

Schoolwide Program	Targeted Assistance Program
40%+ of students on free/reduced lunch	35-39% of students on free/reduced lunch
Funding can go towards all students, but must address at-risk students	Funding can go only towards Title I students- ELs, low-income, at-risk, homeless/foster youth
Example) Theater, Computer Programs	Example) Intervention Teacher

- The past several years McKinley has been around 37% but has been able to run a Schoolwide Program due to an approved waiver

## Background

# Challenges with Qualifying

- A new State law for two free meals for all families <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/sn/cauniversalmeals.asp>. While this is great, since families no longer have to do the free/reduced lunch application for meals, there is less incentive to do the form.
- The form has to be done yearly
- It is a form requiring personal income information
  - Families may not be comfortable sharing this information (especially those with sensitive situations such as immigration status)
- The form must be done online; challenging for families with limited internet/tech access or tech skills
  - Update: SMMUSD now mails paper applications to all students' homes in July
  - The form must be mailed or dropped off (cannot be emailed or faxed)
- The form is currently only in English/Spanish (families at McKinley speak approximately 23 languages)
  - Families may contact the office for translation/interpretation support
- It has to be done during a window end of August to September (so we can't add it as an enrollment requirement in the spring)
  - Need 10 days to process; will get a notification/confirmation letter after 10 days- if don't get the notification contact Food Services
- The demographics of Santa Monica are changing; living in Santa Monica is expensive

<https://www.smmusd.org/Page/4083>

## Background

## McKinley Efforts

- Office staff called families and personally walked them through the application process
- Informed every parent at enrollment to do the form
- Included the form on the school website
- Included the form as a requirement as part of the first day packet
- Multiple parent blasts encouraging families to do the form
- The state extended the window for the applications in 22-23
- Communication with families about Title I status and encouragement for 100% participation in completing the Free-Reduced Lunch Application



Background

Schools who  
Previously  
Qualified

- **Muir**
- **Edison**
- **McKinley**
- **Rogers**
- **JAMS**

## Background

# Qualification and Spending Timeline

### Spring

We budget for the upcoming school year

We are allocated funds with the assumption we will qualify if we previously qualified

### August-September

Collect Free-Reduced Lunch Applications

Start spending Title I funding with the assumption we will qualify if we previously did

### October

We find out if we qualified

### If We Did Qualify-

We continue spending, and assume we will qualify the next year so are allocated funds and budget for it

If We Did Not Qualify- We adjust expenditures, and we assume we don't qualify the next year so budget without Title I



## 22-23 Title I Results

- JAMs qualified for Schoolwide Title I at 40%
  - Rogers qualified for Targeted Assistance Title I at 36%
  - McKinley did not qualify at 34%
  - Edison did not qualify at 30%
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- Good News- District still funded us for the 22-23 year
  - Bad News- We expect to not qualify for Title I Funds for 23-24 so Did Not Budget for it (We will find out in October if we qualified for 23-24)

**2022-23 “Title I” Allocation**  
**\$126,700**

## What Title I Previously Funded at McKinley

**Title I, Stretch, and Formula  
Funds are Reflected in the  
Annual SPSA**

### **Title I Schoolwide Programs Funds** (District/LACOE allocates an amount per Title I School) 22-23 Allocation was \$126,700

**Intervention Teacher**  
(small group intervention in literacy and math 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)

**TK-5 Theater**

**Professional Development and Sub Coverage**  
Examples) AVID, Responsive Classroom, Restorative Justice, Thinking Maps, Cotsen, Collaborative Proactive Solutions, CGI, Wilson Reading

**Curriculum Materials**  
Examples) Phonics programs, Second Step Social Skills, DEI Classroom Libraries and Schoolwide Reading Books, Star CBM Assessment, Leveled Readers, PALS

**Required Parent Involvement Title I Allocation**  
Examples) Parent workshops and trainings

### **Stretch Grant (SMEF) Funds** (District/SMEF allocates an amount per pupil) 22-23 Allocation was \$50,092

**TK-5 STEM** (PTA Pays a Portion for Supplies)

**TK-2 Music**

### **Formula Funds** (District allocations an amount per pupil) 22-23 Allocation was \$34,988

**Campus Monitors**  
(for additional supervision during lunch recess)

## Other Budgets

### **PTA**

Pays for Stuff- They have their own Budget- They commit approximately \$62,000 to the school for Science Supplies, Computer Programs, Field Trip Buses, Teacher Grants, Before/After School Campus Monitor Supervision, and Supplemental School Supplies. Overall total budget is around \$114,000 for events, teacher grants and more

### **SMEF**

SMEF has own budget and pays for additional things like Instructional Aides and Visual Arts

### **General Fund**

District pays general operating costs such as teacher salaries, curriculum materials etc.  
As part of LCAP Funds schools have Literacy Language Interventionists, Bilingual Community Liaison, Academic Support Program tutoring and more.  
Other Measures and Bonds pay for specific things.

## What this Means for Next Year 23-24

- We budget for no Title I funding in 23-24 -\$126,700
- The Intervention Teacher position is dissolved.
  - The person is a permanent employee, so will be offered a vacant position in the district.
- Programs will cost more since we will not receive Title I discounts (which are substantial)
- Good News- due to parent donations to PTA, PTA can take on some costs such as before/after school campus monitor costs, to free up school funding for programs like Theater and TK-2 Music. Note PTA can only pay for stuff, not during-the-school-day staff/programs
- Good News- Prop 28 passed which funds arts/music in education. TBD when the funding will be allocated and the amount. This will help to fund programs like theater and music.
- Good News- The deadline for free-reduced lunch forms next year is earlier CBEDS/Norm Day- October 5. If we end up qualifying, we can budget for and start spending Title I immediately for 23-24.

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## To Keep in Mind

- While we may not technically be labeled “Title I” we still have 34% of students considered low-income (the ones who did the application, there may be more)
- Consider this when planning for instruction, field trips, and events
- We may still qualify Title I funding for 23-24. Parents are encouraged to complete the Free-Reduced Lunch Application (renamed the Educational Benefits Form)