

### ***What is Title I?***

Our school is currently at 53% free and reduced lunch status, which is what Gilbert Public Schools uses to determine fund distribution.

Currently, we are one of thirteen elementary schools receiving Title I funds in our district.

Because we receive Title I funds and because our school is considered “school-wide” status, all of our teachers, aides, and even long term substitutes have to be “highly qualified” by the Arizona state statute.

This means we are giving your students the very best instructors every single day.

### ***What our funding is used for:***

We use our funding in very strategic ways in order to supplement our curriculum to ensure that our students have the opportunity to master grade level standards.

We send our teachers to extra professional development classes, workshops, conferences, and symposiums that help them better meet the needs of our students.

During the second semester, we offer an extended day program for identified students struggling in reading or math.

Gilbert Elementary has two Title reading specialists, a Title math specialist, a Social Worker, and two instructional aides that are paid out of Title I funds.

### ***Gilbert Elementary and GPS's Curriculum***

The state of Arizona has adopted the Arizona College and Career Readiness Standards (Common Core). These standards are very rigorous in reading, writing, and math, at all grade levels.

If you would like to see a full version of these standards, you can find them on the Arizona Department of Education's website.

Our Title program has chosen supplemental materials that support the academic growth of our struggling students so that they can meet grade level standards.

To ensure that our students are meeting grade level standards, we have a system of assessments in place. These include DIBELS reading assessments, ATI Diagnostic tests,

ATI Benchmarks, STAR reading assessments, grade level tests, and formal and informal classroom assessments. Teachers use these to guide their instruction for your student.

State standardized testing uses the AzMerit for reading, writing, and math. AIMS Science is given in grades 4 and 8, and again in high school.

Grade levels meet in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) every Wednesday afternoon to discuss student progress and best practices in order to ensure all students are working toward grade level standards.

All of our students have leadership binders that include goals and means of tracking their progress toward their goals as part of our Leader in Me culture.

### ***Parent Involvement***

You have the right as families of the students at Gilbert Elementary to ask about our Title I plan or how we use our funds at any time.

Our yearly Title I program is submitted to and approved by the Arizona Department of Education each fall.

If you would like to be involved in our site council or anything else, please contact Mr. Sremba at any time.

You will be asked to sign a family/student/teacher compact during our first parent-teacher conference in October. You are your child's first teacher and we value that relationship here at Gilbert Elementary.

You can log into Infinite Campus to see your child's grades. If you do not already have a login, you may ask your child's teacher or the front office to receive this connection to your child's grades.

We believe that home/school communication is vital to student success! Please make sure to read Mr. Sremba's Monday Message, delivered by email, every week.

Our teachers are here to work with you and your child to help them reach their goals and succeed. Teacher/parent communication is vital to the educational process. Please feel free to communicate with your child's teacher through email or phone any time you have questions, comments, or concerns. Building this partnership will ensure your child's success!