

WSRA Position Statement

Title I

Title I is a federally funded education program designed to improve educational opportunities. Accelerated and enriched instruction is provided in local eligible public and private schools for educationally disadvantaged students. Major areas in which assistance is offered include early literacy development, reading/language arts, mathematics, study skills, and family literacy. Instruction is provided to students based on identified academic needs. Major goals of Title I are to develop independent strategic learners who will succeed in the regular classroom, demonstrate proficiencies in the Wisconsin Academic Standards, and become lifelong learners. Family, community, and total school support are essential.

WSRA believes successful Title I programs incorporate these attributes:

- Leadership with commitment to communicate with all parties involved
- Qualified licensed professionals with an understanding of developmentally appropriate practices
- Strong family involvement to support a child's literacy development
- Professional development and training for all staff involved with Title I students
- Clear program goals and objectives that accelerate student achievement
- Coordination with the school curriculum and other special programs
- Positive school and classroom climate
- High expectations for student learning and behavior
- Appropriate instructional materials, methods, and approaches
- Maximum use of academic learning time
- Closely monitored student progress
- Regular feedback and reinforcement given to the child, teacher(s), and family
- Use of evaluation results for ongoing program development

WSRA further believes that successful Title I teaching practices reflect the following:

- Services are designed and delivered to meet the educational, social, and emotional needs of eligible students
- Program components, including assessment, are based upon current literacy research findings
- Instruction is designed to develop independent, strategic learners
- District coordination across content areas focuses on the Wisconsin Academic Standards
- Cooperative planning between Title I and classroom teachers is essential
- Shared decision making takes place by appropriate school staff and parents
- Title I families are actively involved in their child's learning
- Community resources are utilized in a cooperative effort to enhance total student learning and family literacy

