

Words to Watch For

Understanding these terms might mean extra academic help for your child!



If your school sends home a letter including any of the following terms, please pay attention. Some schools offer free programs to help your child succeed in school. Parents must request the extra help for their child to receive the free programs.

AYP - Adequate Yearly Progress

A federal law called No Child Left Behind (NCLB) says that all public schools have to meet some basic standards. Those standards are called Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

Title I

Title I is a federal funding program. It provides extra help for students who are behind academically or at risk of falling behind.

School Choice

School choice means you can send your child to another public school. You can do this if your child's Title I school "needs improvement" and the district will pay for transportation. This is different than open enrollment in Minnesota, where all students can enroll in any public school but parents must provide transportation.

SES - Supplemental Educational Services, or free tutoring

This term refers to extra help such as tutoring. It is provided in subjects such as reading, language arts, science, and math. These services can be provided before or after school, on weekends, or in the summer. They are free, and parents must sign up and choose a program from the district's list.

School Improvement

Title I schools that don't meet the AYP standards are called "schools needing improvement." Teachers, administrators, and parents work together to write a school improvement plan to help the school meet AYP standards.

Please contact the Minnesota Parent Center if you have questions about any of these terms. If you receive a letter and you would like to know more, call 952.838.9000 or 800.537.2237 (toll free in Greater Minnesota).

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