



# Freire

## Charter Wilmington

### **Title I – Annual Notice to Families 2019-20**

Freire Charter School Wilmington receives federal funding through Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs. The purpose of this program is to provide all children significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps. 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 50 percent of the Freire student body is classified as economically disadvantaged, Freire 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 parent and family 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.

In 2019-20, Freire will use our Title I funds to:

- Provide a dean of students and assistant dean to monitor student success in school.
- Provide an intensive reading teacher to help students build reading skills.
- Provide an emotional supports coordinator to manage the student and family counseling program.
- Provide a college counselor to work with students in the college application and transition process for 8<sup>th</sup> graders and high school upperclassmen.

#### **Federal Programs Coordinator:**

Freire's Federal Programs Coordinator is Max Matthews. He can be reached at 267-583-4456 or [max.matthews@buildthefuture.org](mailto:max.matthews@buildthefuture.org). He works for Build the Future Education Collaborative, which acts as the central administrative office for Freire.

#### **Annual Title I Meeting for Families:**

Freire invites parents and families to attend our annual Title I information meeting, where we will describe our participation in Title I, Part A programs, explain the requirements of Title I, and explain the rights parents and families have to be involved.

The meeting for the 2019-20 school year will be held on **Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 5:45 p.m.**

(over)

## Parent and Family Rights Under Title I:

At Freire, we are fully committed to providing the best education for your child and appreciate your partnership in our efforts. We want families to be fully aware of their rights.

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

- Be involved in our Title I, Part A programs – Freire, with the help of parents and families, will develop and implement a Family 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 the Federal Programs Coordinator (see above)
- Know teacher and paraprofessional qualifications – Parents may request, and Freire then will provide, certain information on the professional qualifications of the student’s classroom teachers and paraprofessionals providing instruction to their children. Requests should be put in writing and submitted to the Federal Programs Coordinator (see above). Specifically, you have the right to ask for the following information about each of your child’s classroom teachers:
  - Whether the teacher has met all Delaware licensing and certification requirements for the grades and subjects he or she teaches
  - Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or other provisional certificate because of special circumstances
  - The teacher’s major, whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees
  - Whether any paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications
- Request information regarding any State or School policy regarding student participation in any assessment mandated by the federal government, the State, or Freire as well as the parental right to opt the student out of such assessments where applicable.

## Title I Complaint Procedures:

A parent, family member, or any other individual or organization who feels that the school is not meeting its responsibilities under Title I should first discuss the problem with the school’s Federal Programs Coordinator (see above). A violation would be something such as the school refusing to provide a parent with information on the professional qualifications of their child’s classroom teacher after the parent’s request.

To file a formal complaint with the school, you must send a signed, written letter specifying the alleged violation by the school of a federal statute or regulation that applies to the school and including facts and documentation of the alleged violation. The letter must be mailed to the Federal Programs Coordinator at Build the Future, 1617 John F Kennedy Blvd Ste 1260, Philadelphia PA 19103, or to the school at 201 West 14th St, Wilmington DE 19801.

Upon receiving a formal complaint, a Head of School will investigate the complaint and issue a written report including findings of fact and a decision to the parties involved within sixty working days.

You may also appeal the school’s decision to the Delaware Department of Education, or send an initial complaint directly to the Delaware Department of Education, by mailing a signed letter containing the information requested above to the Secretary of Education, Delaware Department of Education, 401 Federal Street Ste 2, Dover, DE 19901-3639.

The full State of Delaware Official Federal Programs Complaint Procedures can be found in the Delaware Administrative Code, Title 14, Section 258. A link to this regulation may be found on the Title I page of the school’s website.