



**GALLATIN GATEWAY SCHOOL
PO BOX 265, GALLATIN GATEWAY, MT 59730**

September 12, 2014

Dear Parents,

Three times a year our school assessment team collects valuable academic data on each student at GGS. With the data, which is highly focused on math and reading, the staff is able to provide valuable leveled instruction in each classroom and in each subject area of instruction. The assessments (benchmarks) are conducted in September, January, and May of each school year. We use our collected data along with the data from the spring state testing and ITBS. Once the data collection is completed, teachers and teams will analyze the results to provide the greatest instructional programming at each grade level for each student.

The GGS Title 1 team, along with paraprofessional assistance, completes most of the benchmark testing process. The Title 1 team provides programs and services to enrich learning at school with customized instruction and curricula that assists students to 1) meet grade-level academic standards and 2) take an active, engaged interest in what they learn. The team has been very busy this month completing the Fall Benchmark, which includes the AIMSweb, MAZE, and DIBELS assessments for all 154 students at Gallatin Gateway. Students will also be participating in STAR Reading and STAR Math assessments early next week. Once all assessments are complete, referrals for individual student Title I support will begin from both the teaching staff perspective and the parent's perspective.

With that said, some parents may be seeing Title I referral paperwork coming home for 1) parental review, 2) for setting Parent/Title 1 meetings with the teaching staff, and 3) for possible parent signatures. The GGS Title One is a cooperative program between home and school to provide the greatest learning opportunities for students identified as falling below grade-level expectations in one or more areas. For instance a student may qualify for reading assistance and not math assistance or vice versa. Please keep an eye out for Title 1 paperwork and please return it to your child's homeroom teacher as soon as possible. Title 1 instruction starts following receipt of teacher and parent referrals and individual Parent/Title 1 meetings where parents and teachers design individual instructional plans for each Title 1 student.

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the GGS Title 1 team – Mrs. Amy Burkenpas, Dr. Kim DeBruycker, or Mrs. Kim Wegner-McCauley at 763-4415 or stop by before or after school and we would be happy to visit with you about the Title 1 program.

We are excited to start working with you and your child(ren)soon!

Sincerely,

Your Title 1 Team

Mrs. Amy Burkenpas

Dr. Kim DeBruycker

Mrs. Kim Wegner McCauley

Gallatin Gateway School

Office 406.763.4415