

**Keystone Education Center  
Charter School  
425 South Good Hope Road  
Greenville, Pennsylvania 16125  
[www.keystonecharterschool.com](http://www.keystonecharterschool.com)**

**Phone (724) 588-2511**

**Fax (724) 588-2545**

August 8, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian:

It hardly seems possible that another year at Keystone Charter School is about to begin! We are looking forward to successfully reaching new goals during the upcoming school year. **Our first day of school is Monday, August 28, 2017.**

We are excited to begin the school year with some new additions and improvements which will help facilitate a richer learning environment for our students. Some of these additions and improvements include:

- A new location for our middle school with classes being held at the First Baptist Church, 60 Shenango Street, Greenville, PA, 16125.
- New hires including Ms. Katelyn Wolford, high school Social Studies Teacher and Mrs. Connie Timashenka, Special Education Director.
- Updated technology at both high school and middle school and expansion of the high school computer lab.
- Addition of an emotional support curriculum called Lion's Quest.
- Continued use of SAP (Student Assistance Program).
- Implementation of RENEW, a research based approach to drop-out prevention.

There are several pieces of information included in this packet. Please take time to read and complete the necessary forms and return them to the school. As listed above, we encourage you to visit our website where you can find additional important information including our Parental Information Notice, Services Available for Students, FERPA regulations, and Title I information. Listed below are some of our staff members and their extensions. Thank you for your cooperation and do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Mike Gentile  
Chief Executive Officer

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**Charter School Contacts:**

Mike Gentile, Chief Executive Officer, ext. 1104

Matt Nelson, Director of Education, ext. 1106

Connie Timashenka, Special Education Director, ext. 1141

Anna Wilkinson, Court Liaison, ext. 1133

Cindy Nehlen, Guidance/Attendance Secretary, ext. 1103

Ed MacElroy, Middle School Principal, ext. 1152

Alissa Gentile, Transition Coordinator/Special Education Secretary, ext. 1117

Robin Bates, School Nurse, ext. 1109

Tim Woge, Guidance Counselor, ext. 1107

Lisa Batt, Administrative Assistant, ext. 1102

Lisa Pitts, Administrative Assistant, ext. 1101

Chris Gaub, Curriculum Director, ext. 1108



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August 9, 2017

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

On August 20, 2013, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) received waivers from ten requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, as amended by No Child Left Behind (NCLB) of 2001. However, ESEA/NCLB still requires that parents or guardians who have children attending a Title I school be notified of the school's academic achievement as well as the school's designation under Pennsylvania's ESEA Flexibility Waiver. This letter is intended to provide additional information concerning the options available to your child under Pennsylvania's ESEA Flexibility Waiver and to help you understand what the waiver will mean for you and your child.

Beginning with the 2013-14 school year, PDE no longer uses Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) to determine a school's designation. Instead, in accordance with the ESEA Flexibility Waiver, PDE will use four Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs) to designate the Title I school as Reward – High Achievement, Reward – High Progress, Priority, or Focus schools. The four AMOs include: measuring test participation rate; graduation/attendance rate; closing the achievement gap for all students; and closing the achievement gap for the historically underperforming students. In addition, all public schools in the state will receive a School Performance Profile score based on 100 points. This score will be considered the school's academic performance score and while not the criteria for determination of Reward, Priority or Focus status, it details student performance through scoring of multiple measures that define achievement. The School Performance Profile also includes supports to permit schools to access materials and resources to improve in defined areas related to achievement.

Despite the progress made by our students, Keystone Charter School was designated as a Priority School. This designation was based on test data from the 2013-14 school year and our school kept this designation through the 2016 school year. The current SPP designation score is 37.3 out of a possible 100 and can be seen at: <http://paschoolperformance.org>.

As a Priority School, we will work collaboratively with parents/guardians, our community and our school district office to develop a school turnaround plan which will implement interventions to respond to the specific needs of improving the performance of our low-performing student subgroups. To address the achievement needs, the Charter School has planning in place to include the following: Parental Involvement Opportunities as outlined in the Parental Involvement Policy, District-wide Instructional Literacy Coaches to provide classroom resources

(over)

and supports, the use of multiple data sources to make data-informed decisions to best meet individual student needs, a school-wide writing model to increase writing organization and structure, Student Assistance Program that will meet individual student academic, behavioral, and truancy needs, and remediation through standards and benchmark computer programming in mathematics and English/literature. These focus areas will ensure that the most appropriate programming will occur for the student to succeed.

An important part of the success plan for Keystone Charter School is parent participation and support in developing activities to improve student achievement. We hope that, as a parent/guardian, you will become involved in our school improvement initiatives as we continue to monitor student achievement and set high expectations.

The Title One School Wide Plan, along with the Parent Involvement Policy, will be updated this fall. If you are interested in providing input into these policies, please call me at 724-588-2511. **The first meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at Keystone Education Center Charter School (high school).**

Thank you for all that you do to support your child's education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Gentile". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Mike Gentile  
Chief Executive Officer

**Keystone Education Center**  
**Charter School**  
425 South Good Hope Road  
Greenville, Pennsylvania 16125

Phone 724-588-2511

Fax 724-588-2545

August 2017

Dear Parent:

On January 8, 2002, President Bush signed into law the "No Child Left Behind Act" (NCLB). NCLB is designed to improve student achievement by increasing federal involvement in public education both at the state and local level. In 2003, NCLB required significant changes to schools that receive Title I funding. Your child's school receives Title I funding and is covered under NCLB.

NCLB requires:

- ◆ Increased accountability for states, school districts, and individual schools
- ◆ Greater choice for parents, especially those in low-performing schools
- ◆ Greater flexibility for states and local education agencies in the use of federal dollars

Under Act 22 of 1997, state law allows charter school to have 25% of the teaching staff to be non-certified. Under NCLB, parents have a right to know the professional qualifications of their children's teacher(s). This letter is to inform you of your right to know the following information about each of your child's teachers.

- Whether the State of Pennsylvania has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status through which state licensing criteria have been waived.
- The teacher's college major, whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
- Whether any instructional aides or similar paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive specific information about your child's teachers or paraprofessionals, please contact the school. For general information about NCLB, please contact Mike Gentile at 724-588-2511.

Our district is fully committed to the success of your child. We appreciate your partnership in our efforts.

Sincerely,



Mike Gentile  
Chief Executive Officer



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# **NO CELL PHONES**

**Cell phones are not permitted on  
Keystone Charter School Property.**

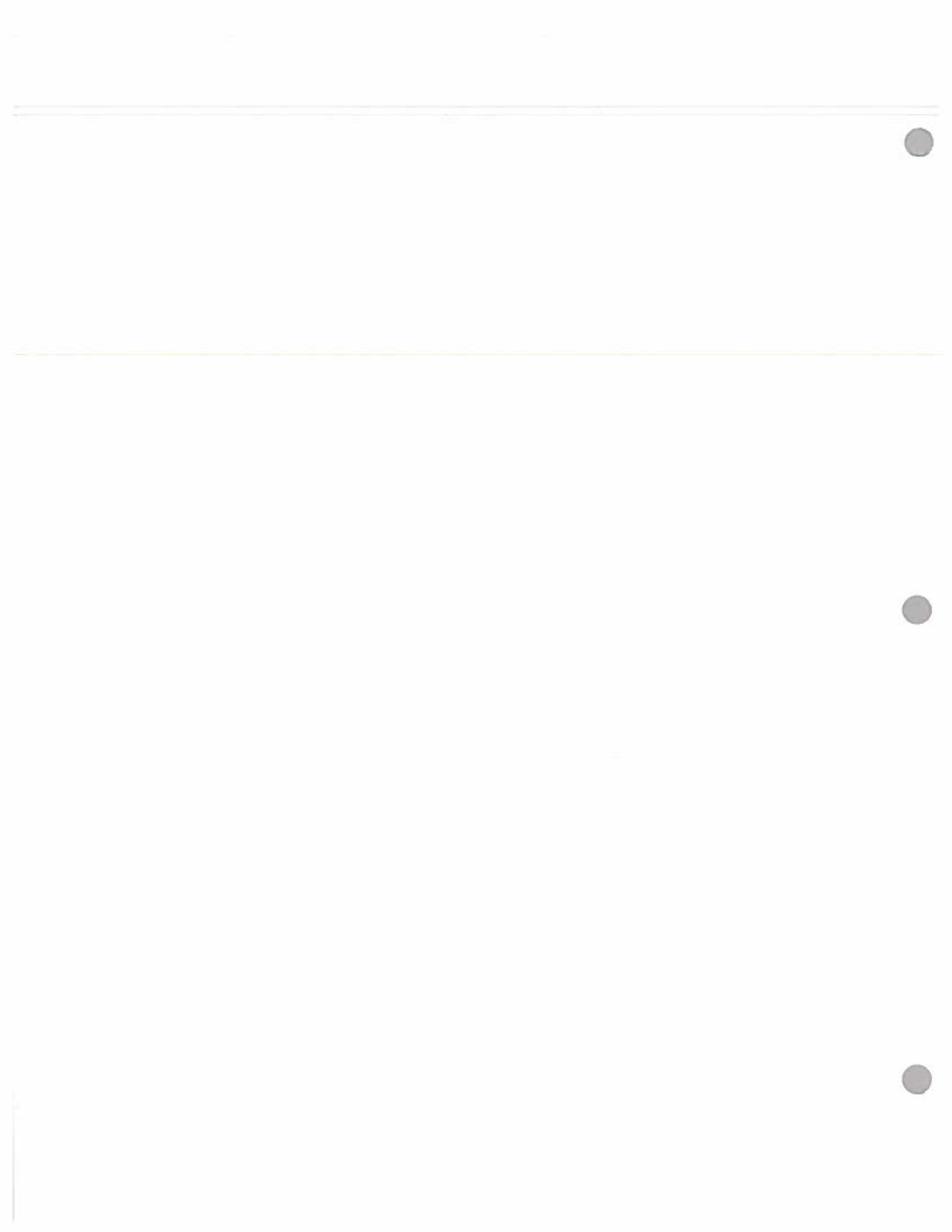
If a student is caught with a cell phone, the phone will be taken from the student and the following steps will be taken:

1<sup>st</sup> offense:

Parent must come to the school and pick up the cell phone. The phone will not be returned to the student.

2<sup>nd</sup> offense:

The cell phone will not be returned to the student or parent until the last day of the school year.





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**STUDENT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

Keystone Education Center Charter School participates in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). Because of this, ALL students receive a free lunch, along with a free breakfast.

Although it is not necessary for families to complete a Pennsylvania Free and Reduced Lunch Form, Keystone is required to obtain the following information:

**Household Size (including self):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Monthly Household Income:** \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Lisa Pitts at 724-588-2511, ext. 1101.

Thank you.



# Keystone Charter School Parent Survey

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

As a parent or guardian, we recognize that you have valuable information and unique insights to share about your child. We value your input and the contributions that you provide to our school. This information will be used in staff meetings to help each teacher meet the needs of your child.

1. What is the best way to contact you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What contributions or services can you offer to the school? (ex., attend meetings, volunteer, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What can the school staff do to best meet your child's needs?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What are your child's strengths?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. How do you feel your child has done academically up to now?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. What does the school staff need to know about your child to help him/her excel?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Using the numbers below, how would you rate your child's abilities (write the number on the line):

- 1. *Outstanding*
- 2. *Very Strong*
- 3. *Average*
- 4. *Below Average*

Reading Skills/Ability: \_\_\_\_\_

Writing Skills: \_\_\_\_\_

Math Skills: \_\_\_\_\_

Computer Skills: \_\_\_\_\_

Leadership Skills: \_\_\_\_\_

Speaking Skills: \_\_\_\_\_

Ability to get along with others: \_\_\_\_\_

Motivation toward school: \_\_\_\_\_

8. What would you like to see your child do after high school?

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9. What concerns do you have about your child's school performance?

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10. What would you like to see the school do to include parents and inform them in the educational process of their child?

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11. If there is any other information that you would like to provide that would help your child and the entire school community, please inform us below.

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# KEYSTONE CHARTER SCHOOL

## TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

### PURPOSE:

The Keystone Charter School Board of Directors recognizes and is committed to the belief that all children can learn and acknowledges that parents share the school's commitment to the educational success of their children.

The Board recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family and agrees that to effectively educate all students, the school and parents must work as knowledgeable partners.

Further, the Board recognizes parent and family involvement as an on-going process that assists parents and families to meet their basic obligation as their child's educator. The Board also promotes clear two-way dialogue between home and school and supports parents as leaders and decision makers at all levels concerning the education of their children.

### GUIDELINES:

It is the policy of the Keystone Charter School that parent involvement in the Title I schoolwide program in grades 7-12 is an integral part of the school's success. It is also important that parents be actively involved in a variety of activities, including but not limited to:

- Parental involvement in the development of all district plans including the parent involvement policy and compact
- Periodic review of the existing policy and to make any changes as recommended by the school district and/or parent advisory council
- Active and on-going parental involvement assistance and training to parents by the district through federal, state and local funding
- The school will promote on-going parental involvement through parent workshops, conferences, adult literacy and other collaborative activities
- District and advisory council will coordinate all activities to include active involvement of all district parents, as well as community members and other local organizations
- Develop surveys and other measuring instruments to determine the overall meaningful parent participation during the course of the school year and to use the information to develop new strategies to improve active parent involvement
- Utilize ideas from parents to help increase parental involvement and to make sure the district is promoting involvement in accordance with Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

### WEBSITE:

Please visit [www.keystonecharterschool.com](http://www.keystonecharterschool.com) for helpful information on our Title I program.

KEYSTONE CHARTER SCHOOL

TITLE I SCHOOL-STUDENT-PARENT COMPACT

**SCHOOL:**

We understand the importance of the school experience to every student and our role as educators and models. Therefore, we agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of our ability:

- Treat each child with dignity and respect
- Strive to address the needs of your student
- Communicate with you regarding your student's progress
- Provide a safe, positive and healthy learning environment for your student
- Correct and return appropriate work in a timely manner
- Communicate homework and classwork expectations

School Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT:**

I realize my education is important. I know I am the one responsible for my own success. Therefore, I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- Get to school on time every day
- Return completed homework on time
- Be responsible for my own behavior
- Be a cooperative learner
- Be respectful to all school members
- Ask for help when needed
- Develop a positive attitude toward school

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT:**

I understand that my participation in my student's education will help his/her achievement and attitude. Therefore, I will continue to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- Encourage my student to complete his/her homework
- Review all school communication
- Attend Parent-Teacher Conferences, Open House and other school events
- Provide a quiet place/time for my student to do homework
- Support the school's homework, discipline and attendance policies
- Encourage my child to show respect for all members of the school community

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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## Title I Parent Resource Center Order Form

As a Title I Parent, you may request a single copy of one or more (up to 10 titles) of the following booklets from the Resource Center completely free of charge. Please complete this form and check up to ten (10) items you would like shipped to you. Return the form to: Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV, 453 Maple Street, Grove City, PA 16127. **ATTENTION: Title I Parent Resource Center.** Fax: 724-458-5083

Date \_\_\_\_\_ School District \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Title I Parent (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Mailing Address (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, verify this request is from a Title I Parent in our school district.  
(Signature of Title I Coordinator or Administrator)

**Check up to ten (10) titles from the following booklets. \* Indicates items for children**

### A. CAREER AWARENESS

- 1. After High School - What?
- 2. Landing a Job - Tips for a Successful Job Search
- 3. How to Encourage Attendance/Success at School
- 4. Next Stop..College! Tips to Help You Find A School That's Right for You
- 5. Financing a College Education
- 6. Be Successful at Work
- 7. Career Planning...A Skill for the Future
- 8. How to Get the Job you Want
- 9. Writing a Resume That Opens Doors
- 10. Balancing Work & Family
- 11. A Good Financial Start
- 12. Guide to Helping Your Teen Succeed in High School

### B. PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 4. About Setting Goals To Reach Your Potential
- 5. Assertiveness - Skills For Life
- 6. Teaching Children Responsibility For Their Learning & Behavior
- 8. 25 Ways Parents Can Build Children's Self-Esteem
- 9. Lo que usted debe saber sobre LA AUTOESTIMA
- 10. What Every Teenager Should Know about Peer Pressure
- 11. Raising Children of Character: a Parent's Handbook
- 12. A Positive Attitude, A Positive You!
- 13. Young People & Suicide - What You Should Know
- 14. Children and Depression - Learn the Facts
- 15. Know What? Bullying Hurts!\* (ages 6-8)
- 17. What's Up With Beating Test Anxiety
- 18. Listening Well and Following Directions

### C. PARENT/SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT

- 1. Teach Children Respect
- 3. Being Involved in Your Child's Education
- 4. Protect Your Child From Drugs: A Parent's Handbook
- 6. About Your School Counselor
- 8. Your Parent - Teacher Conference
- 11. About Helping Your Teen Finish School
- 12. Internet Safety & Responsibility for Students
- 14. La Crianza De Los Hijos
- 16. Raising Your Grandchildren: A Grandparent's Handbook
- 18. Helping Children Learn to Resolve Conflicts
- 19. About Getting Along at School
- 24. The ABC's of Discipline at Home
- 25. Keeping Tabs on Your Child's Education
- 26. Your Guide to Supporting Your Child at School

### D. SPECIAL EDUCATION

- 1. Helping Your Child Manage ADHD: A Parent's Handbook
- 2. Helping Children with Learning Disabilities: A Parent's Handbook
- 4. What Is This Thing Called Dyslexia?

### E. LIFE SKILLS

- 1. What You Should Know About Being a Single Parent
  - 5. Cooperative Co-Parenting - Making the Most of Custody Arrangements
  - 6. Single Mothers Entering the Work Force
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## F. CHILD SAFETY

- 1. McGruff's Bicycle Safety: Coloring Book\*
- 2. McGruff Safe Kids Identification Kit
- 3. About Child Safety
- 4. About First Aid
- 5. Let's Learn More About School Bus Safety Activities Book\*
- 6. About After-School Safety: Coloring/Activities Book\*
- 7. Home Alone After School - What Parents Should Know

## G. CHILD DEVELOPMENT

- 1. Child Development from Birth to 3 Years Old
- 2. Child Development from 3-6 Years Old
- 3. Child Development from 6-9 Years Old
- 4. Child Development from 9-12 Years Old
- 5. About Your Child's Thinking Skills and Language Development: Birth to Age 3

## H. TITLE I

- 1. Learn about Schoolwide Title I Programs
- 4. Every Student Succeeds Act
- 5. Parents' Rights in Education - A Guide to the No Child Left Behind Act
- 8. Title I - What Parents Should Know
- 10. Acerca De Su Programa Del Titulo I
- 11. Common Core State Standards - Academic Success

## I. HELPING YOUR CHILD LEARN

- 1. About Your Child's Learning Style
- 6. Effective Note Taking
- 7. Studying for Success
- 9. Homework Lessons for Parents
- 11. Your Child & Standardized Tests - Grades 3-5: A Parent's Handbook
- 12. Let's Improve our Test-Taking Skills\* An Information & Activities Book (ages 9-12)
- 15. You, Your Child, and Math
- 19. 25 Ways Parents Can Read with Children
- 22. Starting School: Coloring Book\*
- 23. Write to the Point-Tips to Write Effective Essays
- 24. Your Child and Writing
- 25. When a Bright Child Has Trouble Reading
- 26. Help Child w/ Homework Parent Handbook

## J. FAMILY COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. I Tell the Truth
- 2. Critical Thinking
- 3. Let's Say "No Way!" to Violence: Info & Act.\*
- 4. TV and Your Child
- 6. What's Up with Social Media
- 7. Making the Most of Your Child's Summer Vacation
- 8. What Every Family Should Know About Getting Along At Home
- 9. What's Up with Cyber Bullying
- 10. Bedtime Struggles
- 11. Las Batallas A La Hora De Dormir
- 12. I'm Proud to be a Military Kid\*
- 13. Succeeding as a Military Family: a Guide
- 14. Who Knew? The Eat Healthy Be Fit Issue (ages 9-11)
- 15. Preventing Bullying - Information for Parents
- 16. Know What? Fighting Hurts
- 17. Parents and Stress
- 18. Anger Management for Parents: A Parents Handbook

## K. MIDDLE SCHOOL

- 1. Middle School - Moving on up
- 2. What's Up with Starting Middle School
- 3. Standardized Tests in Middle School
- 4. Preparing Your Child for Middle School Success

## L. SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- 1. About Addiction
- 2. On Living Drug-Free
- 3. Alcohol and Others Drugs - Keeping Tabs On Talking With Your Child
- 4. Trying Drugs - What Would YOU Do?



## **Bus Schedules**

### **Grove City, Mercer**

- 7:00 am Pick up in Grove City municipal parking lot behind the library, diagonally across from McDonald's. Drop off approximately 3:00 pm.
- 7:15 am Pick up at Mercer Post Office. Drop off approximately 2:50 pm.

### **Sharon, Farrell, Hermitage and West Middlesex**

#### **#46**

- 7:00 am Pick up at West Middlesex Diner in West Middlesex. Drop off approximately 3:05 pm
- 7:10 am Pick up at Rainbow's on Roemer Boulevard. Drop off approximately 3:00 pm.
- 7:12 am Pick up at the Fatima School. Drop off approximately 2:58 pm.
- 7:15 am Pick up at Keystone Community Based Family Intervention Center on Stambaugh Avenue. Drop off approximately 2:53 p.m.
- 7:28 am Pick up at the Armory in Hermitage. Drop off approximately 2:40 pm.

#### **#44**

- 7:15 am Pick up at Reyer's in Sharon. Drop off approximately 2:45 pm.
- 7:17 am Pick up at Daffin's in Sharon. Drop off at approximately 2:50 pm.

**Commodore Perry** students need to contact Commodore Perry School at 724-253-2232

**Greenville** students need to contact Greenville High School at 724-588-2500.

**Hermitage** students who ride a Hermitage bus to and from home to the Armory need to contact Hermitage at 724-981-8750 and fill out a transportation request form.

**Lakeview** students need to contact Lakeview High School at 724-376-7911.

**Reynolds** students need to contact Reynolds High School at 724-646-5701.

**Sharpsville** students need to contact Sharpsville High School at 724-962-7861.

**Jamestown** students need to contact Jamestown High School at 724-932-3186.

