

September 5th, 2025

Dear Parents,

Three times a year Amsterdam School collects valuable academic data on each student. With the data, which is highly focused on math & reading, the staff is able to provide valuable leveled instruction in each classroom and in each subject area of instruction. The assessments (benchmark screeners) are conducted in September, January, & May of each school year. Once the data collection is completed, teachers along with the MTSS team will analyze the results to provide the greatest instructional programming at each grade level for each student.

The Amsterdam 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 a variety of FastBridge reading and math assessments for all students at Amsterdam School. More diagnostic testing such as CORE Phonics Surveys, phonological awareness and spelling screeners have been administered to some students, as well. Once all assessments have been completed, referrals for individual student Title 1 support will begin from both the teaching staff and the parent's perspective. If you would like to discuss reading/math concerns, please reach out to the classroom teacher and/or fill out a Parent Referral form (found on the Amsterdam School's website under School Programs: Title 1), and turn it in to Chantel Doherty.

With that said, some parents may be receiving a call from our Title 1 team and /or seeing Title 1 referral paperwork coming home for parental review and signatures. Amsterdam Title 1 is a cooperative program between home and school that provides the greatest learning opportunities for students identified as falling below grade-level expectations in one or more areas.

Please keep an eye out for Title 1 paperwork, in the event it applies to your child. Complete and return it to your child's classroom teacher as soon as possible. Title 1 instruction starts following receipt of teacher and/or parent referrals, as well as parent permission.

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Amsterdam Title 1 team - Mrs. Chantel Doherty or Mrs. Marisa Stewart at (406) 282-7216 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 Amsterdam Title 1 Team: Chantel Doherty, Marisa Stewart