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## WHAT IS NEW

We are well into the second half of the 2019/2020 school year. During this time, Title I continues to support our schools to provide equitable services for all students. The importance of family engagement is vital to student success. Family engagement refers to the systemic inclusion of families in activities and programs that promote children's development, and evaluation of such activities, programs, and systems. A growing body of research links meaningful engagement of families in their children's early learning experiences with kindergarten readiness and later academic success. The research indicates that families' involvement in children's learning and development impacts lifelong health, developmental and academic outcomes. Engaging with families is especially crucial in the early years of learning since this is the stage during which young children acquire foundational competencies, such as language, literacy, and social-emotional skills that strongly affect their capacity for life-long learning.

Our District Parent and Family Engagement Committee met on February 19th in conjunction with the Citrus County Education Foundation to participate in the Poverty Simulation. A Poverty Simulation is a facilitated two-hour immersive experience designed to create awareness among participants of life at the bottom rung of the economic ladder. Participants are assigned to "families" who do their best to survive week-to-week over a simulated one-month period. The exercise is immediately followed by a group debrief, during which participants reflect on the experience, discuss insights, and consider next steps. Great insight was gleaned by participating in the simulation. Participants shared that they will not forget the overwhelming stress they felt as they walked in the shoes of someone living in poverty.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions concerning Title I.

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## TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Tips to support your child's learning with i-Ready-Elementary School

- Speak with your child about how using i-Ready will help them prepare for class work. Also explain that i-Ready will show teachers where your child is doing well and which topics need some more review
- Encourage your child to take each lesson and quiz question seriously. Emphasize "thinking before clicking", because just clicking through will not give teachers an accurate report of what your child knows.
- Encourage your child to use tools that appear at the bottom of the screen in some lessons.

Study Island- Middle School

Study Island is an online learning platform that offers a deep store of practice items, motivational tools like blue-ribbons, gamified interfaces, and interactive lessons. This comprehensive system of instructional and assessment tools provides in-depth practice and feedback regarding student progress on content standards. Study island can be used anywhere there is a computer or tablet with internet access. Students can log in at home by going to the Citrus County Schools District's Website and selecting the students tab and then going in through Classlink.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact

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