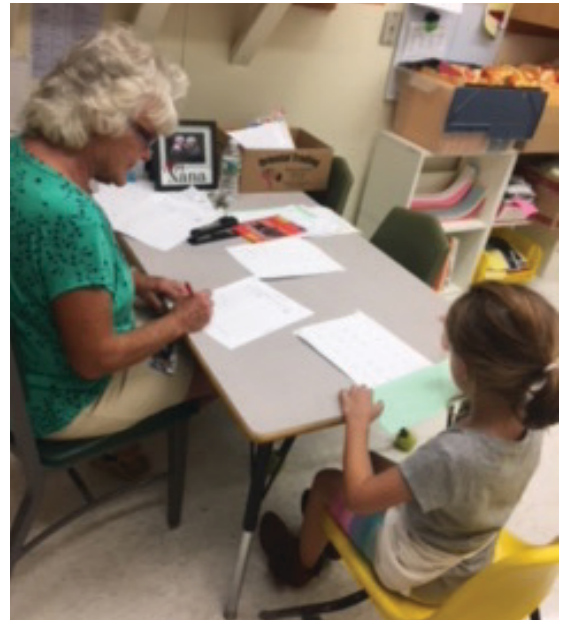


## Title I: Questions Answered

*By Erin Madore*

What is Title I and why does my child need Title I? Many of you may have had these very questions go through your mind the first time you heard about the program. As the Title I Director for MSAD 54, I hope to clarify both what Title I is and why it is important.

The Maine Department of Education defines Title I as “a federal program that provides financial assistance to school districts and schools with high percentages of children from low-income families.” The “federal monies [provided through Title I] support a variety of services to help ensure all Maine students have fair and equal opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on State standards and assessments.” In essence, Title I is



a program designed to

help equal the playing field, ensuring that all children have access to effective programming and teaching, in spite of challenging socioeconomic circumstances.

All MSAD 54 elementary schools are currently Title I school-wide or are working toward that designation. Qualifying for these funds allows our district to better meet the needs of all children and to help them meet grade level expectations. Some children receive one-on-one instruction by a Title I teacher; others may receive small group instruction; and—in some cases—an extra teacher may be brought into the classroom during reading, writing or math

blocks. These interventions by Title I staff have a significant impact in the lives of our students across the district.

*If you have any questions regarding the MSAD 54 Title I program, please feel free to contact me at [emadore@msad54.org](mailto:emadore@msad54.org) or 474-2907, extension 3303.*