

September 6, 2011

Dear Parents:

Riverside Elementary School is dedicated to ensuring that our students succeed. While we have always held high expectations for our students, the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) has set new standards for all students to meet.

Recently, our state released a report on the “adequate yearly progress” (AYP) our schools are making toward achieving proficiency for 100% of our students under NCLB.

The report gives a simple yes or no grade, based solely on one state standardized test. Under NCLB, AYP is an all-or-nothing proposition. Please be aware that many good schools have not made AYP, both in our state and nationwide. That does not mean that these schools were unsuccessful.

Although our school did not meet AYP in all of the measured subgroups, it has improved in many. As a result of not meeting AYP, the state and federal government will be asking us to provide two parental choices. The first option is to inform parents that their child is eligible to attend another public school in Riverside. Since there are no other public schools in Riverside, this is not a realistic or feasible choice. The second choice is to provide *certain qualifying students* Supplemental Educational Services. These services will be provided after the school day and will be called the SES Afterschool Academy. ***Only certain students will qualify for this option.*** Eligible students are limited to those who are both low-income families and are also low performing. As per statute, we may not disclose to the public the identity of any student who is eligible for supplemental educational services without the written permission of the students’ parent(s). Therefore, Riverside Elementary School will notify those who qualify on an individual and confidential basis.

We are firmly committed to achieving our goal of success for every student. We are not only proud of our current success, but excited about the prospects of our continued improvement.

Sincerely,

Scott Shumway
Elementary School Principal