



Education...the Bridge to the Future

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September 8, 2010

Dear Families:

In an effort to keep parents and community members informed of important issues affecting our school district, this letter is being written to explain Kennewick School District's status with regard to student achievement. In August, all districts in Washington State were notified of their status in relation to federal legislation known as the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001" (NCLB). This status, called "Adequate Yearly Progress" (AYP), is a key part of NCLB. AYP is an annual determination of whether schools, districts, and states have made progress toward the goal of having all students meet or exceed state standards in reading and math as well as meet targets for test participation, unexcused absences and graduation rates. Washington's statewide assessment, the Measures of Student Progress (grades 3-8) and High School Proficiency Exams served as the major factor in calculating AYP in Washington State for this past school year.

While the Kennewick School District has met its district AYP targets in many areas, we have not met our targets in the following areas:

- Elementary Reading (grades 3-5) with Hispanic, Limited English, Low Income, and Special Education students.
- Elementary Math (grades 3-5) with Hispanic, Low Income, Black, and Special Education students.
- Middle School Reading (grades 6-8) with Hispanic, Low Income, Limited English, and Special Education students.
- Middle School Math (grades 6-8) with Hispanic, Limited English, Low Income, and Special Education students.
- High school Reading (grade 10) with Hispanic and Special Education students.
- High School Math (grade 10) with Hispanic, White, Limited English, and Low Income students.

Because of this, we were required to revise our district improvement plan within 90 days after identification; administrators, teachers, parents, and other representatives were collaboratively involved in the development of this plan. Additionally, the district must reserve at least ten percent (10%) of its annual Title I federal fund allocation to provide focused, professional development for teachers and administrators in the areas where we have not met the target.

Parents are vital partners in improving schools. We welcome you to actively participate in the many avenues you have as parents to support district staff and students in reaching our annual achievement targets.

We are committed to the success of each student in our district and are focused on raising each student's academic performance. We are optimistic about the future and we hope that you will join us in this important work. We encourage you to contact your student's school or the district office for any questions that you may have or for additional information.

Sincerely,

Dave Bond, Superintendent
Kennewick School District