

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Every school in the Anchorage School District has been working on the goal of improving the academic achievement of all our students in every subject. On state tests, most students are demonstrating their proficiency. In national comparisons, our district consistently scores above national averages.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND REQUIREMENTS

The federal law called the *No Child Left Behind Act* requires that schools make progress in increasing the percentage of students who are proficient, or on grade level, on state exams until reaching the 100% proficient mark by the 2013-14 school year. This progress is referred to as “adequate yearly progress” or AYP. The state of Alaska has established annual student achievement targets in language arts and math to determine whether schools and districts have made adequate progress. Additionally, students in every group must reach participation and attendance rates.

THIS SCHOOL HAS NOT MADE AYP

Your student’s school has not made adequate yearly progress by those state measures because they have not met all 31 of the state requirements. Since the school was designated as Level 2 last year, it has been designated as Level 3 this year. Because the school is now Title I and receives extra federal dollars, under the federal law, you may have an opportunity to apply for additional services for your student..

CHOICES FOR PARENTS

Though normally Title I schools offer school choice at Levels 2 and 3, Whaley is a special program that is not duplicated anywhere in the district. Therefore, rather than offering choice, the federal law allows parents of eligible students to apply for supplemental services. If your student currently qualifies for the free and reduced lunch program at school, you will be eligible to apply for these services. If you are eligible for services, you will be receiving another letter soon.

WHAT ARE SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION SERVICES (SES)?

Supplemental educational services (or SES) are extra academic services offered beyond the school day to help improve academic performance.

CAN EVERY STUDENT GET SES?

No. Under federal law, we must give priority to the lowest-income, lowest-achieving students. The achievement level will be based on the student’s score on the statewide assessment program, and income will be based on a student’s eligibility for free or reduced lunch.

HOW WILL I KNOW IF MY CHILD CAN GET SES?

The Title I office will send you a second notice about the SES program with more information and an application for enrolling your child if your child is eligible. After they receive the applications, they will determine which students will get SES and notify you.

WHO CAN ANSWER MY QUESTIONS ABOUT SES OR SCHOOL CHOICE?

If you have any more questions about your options under the law, please call the school or the Title I office at 742-4496

Sincerely,



Carol Comeau
Superintendent