



ZILLAH SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 205

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<http://www.zillahschools.org/>

“Educational Excellence for Everyone”

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August 15, 2015

Dear Families:

In an effort to keep parents and community members informed of important issues affecting our school district, this letter is written to explain Zillah 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 “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 serves as a major factor in calculating AYP in Washington State.

Zillah School District has not met these targets in the areas of reading and math proficiency. Because of this, we are required to revise our district improvement plan within 90 days after identification; administrators, teachers, parents, and other representatives will be collaboratively involved in the development of this plan. Additionally, the district must reserve at least ten percent (10%) of its annual Title I 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, and we welcome you to actively participate in the revision and update of the district improvement plan. There are many ways you can be involved to support district staff and students in reaching the annual targets.

Parents/guardians of students in grades 3-8 and high school who participated in the MSP this spring will receive individual MSP results in the month of September. Programs and opportunities for additional instruction and guided practice are available during the school day as well as after school for students who have not yet met standard. Please contact your student's school for specific information about these services.

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,

Kevin McKay, Superintendent