

McCool Junction Public School
November 11, 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The federal education legislation, No Child Left Behind, mandates that all students must be proficient on reading and math academic standards by 2014. Schools are expected to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward that goal. The NCLB goal for last year was to have 100% of all students in grades 3-8 & 11 be proficient on the reading and math standards. Additional information about how our school compared to other schools in the state will be available on the State of the Schools Report, which is available for public viewing as of October 16, 2015 on the NDE website at: <http://www.education.ne.gov/documents/SOSR.html>.

If a school does not meet the state goal two years in a row, in the same grade level and subject, they are identified as "In Need of Improvement." A school can get out of School Improvement Status after all subgroups meet the AYP goals for two consecutive years.

McCool Junction Elementary School is in year 1 of Title I School Improvement Status. The following table illustrates our students' overall performance over the past two years.

	Reading	Reading	Math	Math
	2013-2014	2014-2015	2013-2014	2014-2015
Grades 3-6	Not met in one or more subgroups	Not met in one or more subgroups	Not met in one or more subgroups	Not met in one or more subgroups

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires each school identified for Title I School Improvement to offer Public School Choice to all students who attend the identified school. Our students do not have another choice of schools within our district and as a result there is no transfer option available to our students.

One requirement of a school identified is to establish an Accountability Compact Team of the elementary principal, teacher, ESU staff, NDE staff and parents to develop and submit a two-year plan to the State Department of Education to meet the goal. The plan will include strategies to promote parent involvement as well as incorporate instructional strategies based on scientifically based research. The District will implement several changes intended to help raise student achievement. These include having quarterly in-service days, which will be led by ESU specialists, creating a scope and sequence for our science curriculum, continuing to use the DIBELS results so that our needy students get extra help in reading, and implementing MAPS testing in grades 3-6 to determine specific areas of need. It is the hope of the district that these changes, along with previous efforts will help us to meet the goal next year.

All students benefit greatly from parents being involved in their school lives. Asking questions, having students read aloud and setting aside a time and place for homework are only a few of the things that you can do. Your child's teacher can give you additional strategies to work on at home. Student achievement is a partnership between school and home; and a strong partnership has been proven to be effective in increasing student achievement.

Please call Ms. Kapperman if you have any questions about the AYP status or the plan to improve academic achievement for the elementary students at McCool Junction Public School.

Sincerely,

Teresa Kapperman
Assessment Direct
McCool Junction Public School