

November 11, 2014

Dear Parents & Patrons,

The federal education legislation, No Child Left Behind (NCLB), 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 state reading goal for 2012-13 was to have 89% of all students in grades 3-6 proficient on reading standards and 84% of all students in grades 3-6 proficient on math standards. The 2013-14 state reading goal was to have 100% of all students in grades 3-6 proficient on reading & math standards. Additional information about how our school compared to other schools in the state is available on the State of the Schools Report.

<http://reportcard.education.ne.gov/Default.aspx?AgencyID=68-0020-000>

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

One sub-group in grades 3-5 at Perkins County Elementary did not meet the 2012-2013 & 2013-2014 goal in reading. This places Perkins County Elementary in School Improvement Status until all sub-groups are able to meet the reading goal two years in a row. Perkins County Schools is in year 1 of Title I School Improvement Status. The following table illustrates our students' overall performance over the last two years.

Perkins County Elementary
Grades 3-5

	Reading		Math	
	2012-13	2013-14	2012-13	2013-14
All Students	81% met	89% met	73.6% met	83% met
Identified Sub-group	60.3% met	74% met	59% met	73.6% met

The 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, our students do not qualify for Public School Choice.

Because of the status, the school must develop and implement a two-year plan to help the subgroup meet the goal. A committee of elementary teachers, parents, and administration will develop and submit a plan to the State Department of Education.

All students benefit from parents being involved in many ways. Asking questions, having students read aloud, and setting aside a time and place for homework are only a few strategies 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 helping student achievement.

Please call Mr. Prante if you have any questions about the AYP status or the plan to improve the academic achievement of all subgroups at the elementary.

Sincerely,



Phillip Picquet
Superintendent, Perkins County Schools