



PAULDING COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT
Focused on Learning

Larry L. Ragsdale
Superintendent

2008-2009

Dear Parents/Guardian:

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001 requires that all states create high academic standards for what a child should know and be able to do for all grades in reading/language arts and mathematics. Each school and district must improve each year until all students meet the standards. This yearly improvement in school performance is called Adequately Yearly Progress (AYP).

The Georgia Department of Education established a minimum percentage of students who must meet or exceed academic proficiency standards on required statewide tests. The goal is that all students will meet or exceed the academic proficiency requirements by the 2013-2014 school year.

NCLB also requires that the state department of education annually review the performance of each district that receives funds under Title I of the NCLB Act. Paulding's Title I schools are Allgood Elementary, Baggett Elementary, Dallas Elementary, Hiram Elementary, New Georgia Elementary, Poole Elementary, and Union Elementary.

If a district's academic performance is lower than the state's required level, the district will be identified as not making AYP. For the 2008-2009 school year, the Paulding County School District has been identified as not making AYP and is classified as being in need of improvement. A district with this classification has the responsibility to:

- Consult with parents and school staff when developing the District Improvement Plan.
- Identify and address the specific reason for low student achievement.
- Explain how the district will use Title I and other funds to improve Title I schools.
- Reserve at least ten percent of their annual Title I allocation to provide professional development for teachers and administrators.
- Provide technical assistance to all schools identified as schools at Needs Improvement status.

To address the areas of need, the Paulding County School District has created a District Improvement Plan, posted on the district website at www.paulding.k12.ga.us. Your continued feedback and support is requested. The following information may assist in the support of your school and district:

1. Learn more about the new NCLB requirements.
2. Become aware of strategies to improve student achievement; additional informational and resources are available from the Georgia Department of Education (www.gadoe.org) and the US Department of Education (www.ed.gov) websites.
3. Talk with district staff about its improvement plan.
4. Support and reinforce your child's good study habits and review their homework and test results.
5. If you are a parent of a student who attends a low performing school, NI-1 prior to 2007-2008 and NI-2, ask about School Choice options to transfer your child to a better performing public school in the district. (Letters have been mailed.)
6. Visit and volunteer at your child's school.

The entire staff is working diligently to ensure that every child meets high academic standards in a safe and caring learning environment. Feel free to contact our district office for further information on any of these requirements and to find out how to become involved in the district's improvement efforts. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Yvette Hill,
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