

August 19, 2010

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Under the federal *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB) of 2001, each state is required to assess all school districts to determine if each district has made adequate yearly progress (AYP) toward meeting the academic testing standards and additional measures set by the state. AYP decisions are based on the results of state testing in communication arts and math and the district's attendance rate and graduation rate. If the district has not made AYP for two consecutive years in any one of the four areas, it is considered "in need of improvement." The Maries County R-II school district is assessed based on the achievement levels of four groups of students. Those groups are: Total students, White students, Free and Reduced Lunch students, and IEP students. Other sub-categories are not included due to the small number of students served by the district who belong to those groups. Failure to make AYP in any group results in a "Not Met" designation for the entire district.

Based on the results of this year's academic testing in communication arts and math and the district's attendance rate and graduation rate, the Maries County R-II school district did not make adequate yearly progress for the following reasons:

- 1. Communication Arts percent Advanced and Proficient was 44.7**
- 2. Mathematics percent Advanced and Proficient was 48.1**

The state target for Communication Arts was 67.4% and the state target for Mathematics was 63.3%

Because this is the fourth year of this designation, the district is considered to be in Level 3 of District Improvement, Corrective Action, Continuing. We will evaluate and update the plan for improvement that has been developed. One important component of this plan is parent involvement in the implementation of the plan. The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will review the district's progress toward meeting the goals and objectives of the plan and may impose additional sanctions.

You can also help by increasing your understanding of the assessment, understanding the importance of good attendance and graduating from school, visiting schools and becoming a volunteer, and engaging in reading and math strategies at home.

Information about *No Child Left Behind* and what parents can do to improve student achievement can be found at: <<<http://www.ed.gov/parents/landing.jhtml>>>.

Sincerely,



Zachary J. Templeton Ed.D.

August 19, 2010

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The goal of the *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB) of 2001 is to ensure that all children in this country receive a quality education. Under NCLB, each state is required to assess all schools to determine if each school has made adequate yearly progress (AYP) toward meeting the academic testing standards set by the state. If the school has not made AYP for two consecutive years, it is considered "in need of improvement."

Based on the results of this year's academic testing in reading and math, your child's school, Bland Middle School, did not make adequate yearly progress for the following reason:

1. The percentage of students who scored advanced or proficient in Communication Arts was 38.6 and in Mathematics was 42.4. The necessary level for Communication Arts was 67.4% and Mathematics was 63.3%.

The state average for Communication Arts was approximately 51.7% and for Mathematics was approximately 54.4%

Under the No Child Left Behind Act, students who attend a school in level 2 corrective action are eligible for in district transfer. Since the Maries County R-II district has only one middle school, this option is not available to our students.

Bland Middle School will be making supplemental educational services (SES) available to all eligible students. These services must be contracted through approved providers designated by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Once the approved provider list is available, the school will make it known to parents who will have a choice in who provides the SES for Bland Middle School. Students who are identified as eligible for SES will be notified directly. Students who are not eligible for SES will have the opportunity to participate in district provided tutoring services.

Because of this designation, the school must develop a plan for improvement. One important component of this plan will be parent involvement in both the development and implementation of the plan. We encourage you to become involved with your child's school to support school improvement.

Sincerely,



Zachary J. Templeton Ed.D.