

Dear Parent,

The *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB) requires the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to identify school buildings that have not made sufficient progress in one or more areas for at least two years in a row as needing School Improvement. The students, teachers, administrators, and other staff work hard to meet the requirements of NCLB. However, school buildings sometimes need improvement. The Ohio Department of Education has identified Washington Elementary as a school in School Improvement, Year One.

There are four components used to measure academic growth. This growth is called “Adequate Yearly Progress” or AYP. For each grade, test, and student group, a certain percentage of students must reach grade-level proficiency for the building to meet AYP. The components that were used to measure AYP at Washington School are:

1. Reading (both test scores and 95% participation rate are counted);
2. Mathematics (both test scores and 95% participation rate are counted); and
3. Attendance Rate (goal of 93%)
4. Graduation Rate (not applicable for Washington School)

There are ten student groups that must meet their goals for the building to meet AYP. If any group does not make AYP in reading, mathematics, or attendance, then the building does not make AYP. Of the ten student groups, the following groups are represented on Washington’s Report Card: All Students, Economically Disadvantaged Students, White (non-Hispanic) Students, and Students with Disabilities. The Students with Disabilities did not make AYP in Reading.

The AYP results for Washington Elementary for the past three years are:

| <b>AYP Component Results</b> |                |                    |                        |                        |
|------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>School Year</b>           | <b>Reading</b> | <b>Mathematics</b> | <b>Attendance Rate</b> | <b>Graduation Rate</b> |
| <b>2006-2007</b>             | Met            | Met                | Met                    | Not Applicable         |
| <b>2007-2008</b>             | Not Met        | Not Met            | Met                    | Not Applicable         |
| <b>2008-2009</b>             | Not Met        | Met                | Met                    | Not Applicable         |

| <b>Reading Proficiency by Student Groups</b> |                              |                              |                              |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Student Groups</b>                        | <b>School Year 2006-2007</b> | <b>School Year 2007-2008</b> | <b>School Year 2008-2009</b> |
| <b>All Students</b>                          | Met                          | Met                          | Met                          |
| <b>Economically Disadvantaged</b>            | Met                          | Met                          | Met                          |
| <b>White Students</b>                        | Met                          | Met                          | Met                          |
| <b>Students with Disabilities</b>            | Met                          | Not Met                      | Not Met                      |

| <b>Mathematics Proficiency by Student Groups</b> |                              |                              |                              |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Student Groups</b>                            | <b>School Year 2006-2007</b> | <b>School Year 2007-2008</b> | <b>School Year 2008-2009</b> |
| <b>All Students</b>                              | Met                          | Met                          | Met                          |
| <b>Economically Disadvantaged</b>                | Met                          | Met                          | Met                          |
| <b>White Students</b>                            | Met                          | Met                          | Met                          |
| <b>Students with Disabilities</b>                | Met                          | Not Met                      | Met                          |

NCLB describes what the State, district, and a building must do when a building is in School Improvement. The district is required to provide this notice to parents explaining why Washington Elementary is in School Improvement, Year One. Washington Elementary must develop a 3-year improvement plan within 3 months of identification for improvement and begin implementation of the first year of the plan. The building must spend 10% or more of Title I funds on professional development. The district is offering public school choice for any student who wishes to attend another elementary building within the Niles City Schools. The district will pay the transportation costs associated with the transfer.

Please review the reasons that Washington Elementary School is in School Improvement. We encourage parents to give us ideas on how we can improve. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this notice, please contact the building principal, Mrs. Linda Ruggles, at 330-652-3939.

Sincerely,

Rocco Adduci  
Superintendent