

Russell County

Board of Education

September 30, 2011



Dear Parent/Guardian:

As part of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*, states must use academic assessments and other indicators to annually review the progress of each district to determine whether the district makes Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in reading and mathematics. Kentucky uses the Interim Assessment System data to meet the federal requirements.


Russell County has been identified for corrective action under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). The NCLB report shows the targets the district must make for AYP. According to the NCLB Report released by the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), Russell County reached 8 out of 13 targets or 61.5%, but did not make AYP. Under the federal law, a district that does not meet AYP for two years in a row is identified for district improvement. Russell County School district is currently identified for corrective action, year three. Specifically, Russell County did not meet the following goals: reading for students with disabilities, reading for those students receiving free/reduced lunch, mathematics for students with disabilities, mathematics for those students receiving free/reduced lunch, graduation rate (high-school level) and reduction of novice scores (middle school level). The complete NCLB report is available on the Kentucky Department of Education's website at www.education.ky.gov under "Open House", or you may receive a copy of the report by calling 270-343-3191 or e-mailing Michael Ford @ michael.ford@russell.kyschools.us.

When a district is identified for improvement or corrective action, it is required to revise the district improvement plan and develop a corrective action plan. The purpose of the plan is to improve student achievement throughout the district. Therefore, the overall plan must identify actions that have the greatest likelihood of accomplishing this goal. The plan must include strategies to promote effective parental involvement in the schools served by the district. You are encouraged to become involved in your child's school and to become an active partner with teachers and school and district administration in educating your children. You can become an approved parent volunteer, a mentor to help struggling students, attend PTO meetings school board meetings and participate in school site base council meetings. Additional information and resources are available at www.ed.gov.

The Russell County Board of Education is proud of the academic accomplishments of its students and schools as they continue to distinguish Russell County Schools as a high performing school district. I urge you to examine the results and look closely at the progress our schools are making. Most importantly, I encourage you to join me in addressing our challenges and applauding the great work going on in classrooms throughout the district. Our district has embraced Kentucky's Core Academic Standards and is moving forward with their implementation at a rapid pace. As always, I welcome your comments, suggestions, and involvement in our schools and in the challenges our students face. I am firmly committed to achieving our goal of success for every child, and I recognize that we must continually improve. We thank you for your continued support and encouragement for our school community.

If you have any questions about what Russell County Schools is doing to improve teaching and learning in every school, please contact Michael Ford, District Title I Coordinator or Tonya Adams, District Curriculum Coordinator at 270-343-3191 or your child's principal.

Sincerely,


Kenny Pickett
Superintendent