

**HAY SPRINGS PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Hay Springs Middle School**

November 10, 2015

Dear Parent/Patron,

The federal education legislation, No Child Left Behind (NCLB), mandates that all students must be proficient on reading and math state academic standards by 2014. Schools are expected to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward that goal. The NCLB goal for last year was to have 100% of all students in grades 3-8, & 11, be proficient on the reading and math standards. Additional information about how our school compared to other schools will be available for public viewing on the State of the Schools Report October 16, 2015 on the NDE website at: <http://www.education.ne.gov/documents/SOSR.html>.

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 get out of School Improvement Status after all subgroups meet the AYP goals for two consecutive years.

Hay Springs Middle School is in year 1 of Title I School Improvement Status. The following table illustrates our students' overall performance over the past two years.

	Reading		Math	
	2013-2014	2014-2015	2013-2014	2014-2015
Grades 3-5	80% overall Three subgroups did not meet goal	94% overall Three subgroups did not meet goal	89% overall Two subgroups did not meet goal	90% overall Three subgroups did not meet goal
Grades 6-8	96% overall Three subgroups did not meet goal	86% overall Three subgroups did not meet goal	87% overall Four subgroups did not meet goal	69% overall Four subgroups did not meet goal
Grade 11	74% overall Three subgroups did not meet goal	88% overall One subgroup did not meet goal	84% overall Three subgroups did not meet goal	88% overall One subgroup did not meet goal

One subgroup in grades 3-6 did not meet the 2013-2014 goals in reading. Two subgroups did not meet the reading goal in 2014-2015. Hay Springs Middle School remains in School Improvement Status until all subgroups are able to meet the reading goal two years in a row.

The No Child Left Behind 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 at the same grade level within our district and as a result there is no transfer option available to our students.

One requirement of a school identified is to establish an Accountability Compact Team of the Middle School principal, teachers, ESU staff, NDE staff and parents to develop and submit a two-year plan to the State Department of Education to meet the goal. The plan will include strategies to promote parent involvement as well as incorporate instructional strategies based on scientifically based research. The District will implement several changes intended to help raise student achievement. Students who score well below their grade level will be placed in smaller, accelerated reading groups. It is the hope of the district that these changes, along with previous efforts will help us to meet the goal next year.

All students benefit greatly 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 of the things 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. Cline or Mrs. Marx if you have any questions about the AYP status or the plan to improve the academic achievement of all subgroups at the Middle School.

Sincerely,



Mr. Cline  
Principal, Hay Springs Middle School