

July 20, 2009

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian:

In January 2002, the *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB), was signed into law to improve educational opportunities for all children attending a Title I school. This federally funded program provides assistance to schools serving students who are at risk for academic failure. This legislation supports the school district's efforts to provide a strong standards-based educational program for students along with accountability for student achievement.

Western Valley Middle School operates a Title I program. NCLB requires that all Title I schools make **Adequate Yearly Progress** (AYP) in all indicators for two consecutive years. Parents of children attending Title I schools that have not made AYP are required to be notified of the school's AYP status.

Parents of children attending Title I schools that have not made AYP have the option of Public School Choice with free transportation to a school not identified for improvement.

The table below details the AYP determination for our school.

AYP Determination	Yes or No
Met 95% Percent Tested in Math?	Yes
Met 95% Percent Tested in Reading?	Yes
Met Annual Measurable Objectives in Math?	No*
Met Annual Measurable Objectives in Reading?	No*
Met 90% K-8 Attendance Rate?	Yes
Met 71 % High School Graduation Rate or Increased 1% from Previous Year?	NA

As a result of the above, our school is currently identified to be in **Year 1 of Title I School Improvement**.

The following chart provides a comparison of our school to other elementary or secondary schools in our district and in the State as required by NCLB.

Grade	My School	My District	Arizona Schools	My School	My District	Arizona Schools
	% Proficient in Math	% Proficient in Math	% Proficient in Math	% Proficient in Reading	% Proficient in Reading	% Proficient in Reading
6	52	57	68.1%	54	58	70.2%
7	67	73	73.3%	60	67	72.7%
8	45	52	63.2%	55	59	69.3%

School Choice

Due to our school's **Year 1** Title I School Improvement designation, your child **will** be eligible to attend a school that is NOT identified for Title I School Improvement and the district will pay for transportation. Please note the number of students eligible to transfer is limited by the amount of funds available to pay for transportation costs. If funds are not sufficient, lowest-achieving students from low-income families must be given priority.

Parents choosing to transfer their child have the following choice of schools: Santa Maria Middle School.

Attached is a list of information about the school and how it compares to our school. Please complete the attached form by August 1, 2009 to let us know if you would like request a transfer.

Please contact Trent Lyon, principal, at 623-707-2200 should you need assistance in selecting a school.

School Improvement Plan

We have been working with the district and the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to revise the Arizona School Improvement Plan for our school. In order to address the indicators of not making AYP, the district and ADE are assisting our school in:

- Providing support in revising our Arizona School Improvement Plan (high-quality ongoing professional development, facilities, adopting research-based interventions, logistics, and instructional time);
- Coordinating resources (i.e., instructional and non-instructional staff, state and federal funding).

The school is implementing the following strategies to address the indicator(s) of not making AYP:

- Provide additional intervention time, including time before and after school for math and reading instruction;
- Use cooperative learning structures in reading and math classes;
- Closely monitor the effectiveness of interventions for specific subgroups.

We encourage you to become involved by participating in the development of the Arizona School Improvement Plan. Please contact me at 623-707-2101 or tlyon@fesd.org if you are interested in being part of a committee or would like more information on our school. As a reminder, our Title I annual meeting will be held on August 25th at 8:00AM and again at 6:30 PM in the WVMS library and our instructional staff will be available to answer questions.

Educationally yours,

Trent Lyon
School Principal

Cindy Bradley
Federal Programs Coordinator

Enclosures:
School Comparisons for Public School Choice – if applicable
Parent Request for Transfer