



Illinois State Board of Education

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Rod Blagojevich
Governor

SEP 16 2005

Jesse H. Ruiz
Chairman

Dr. Randy J. Dunn
State Superintendent of Education

September 14, 2005

Dear Parent:

In accordance with the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (NCLB), states must provide notification to parents of students in districts that are identified for improvement because the district did not make adequate yearly progress. (See 20 U.S.C. § 6316 (c) (7)) This communication acts as the notification to meet this federal requirement.

The Illinois State Board of Education has asked your superintendent to distribute this letter and the 2005 AYP Status Report data to you. The data identifies why the district did not make adequate yearly progress (AYP). Under NCLB and state law, for a district to make AYP:

- (i) 47.5% of the district's students (as a whole, and for certain subgroups) must exceed the state's targets in math and reading on state assessments;
- (ii) 95% of the district's students (as a whole, and for certain subgroups) must participate in state assessments for mathematics and reading; and
- (iii) the district's students (as a whole, and for certain subgroups) must meet an 89% attendance rate for grade schools and a 67% graduation rate for high schools.

If a district does not make AYP for two consecutive years, it is deemed to be in "improvement status" and certain state and federal sanctions apply. Two consecutive years of meeting AYP criteria are required for a district to be removed from "improvement status."

While AYP is an important measure of student learning, it is important to remember that a district that does not make AYP should never be considered a "failing" district. Teaching and learning is an ongoing process that changes constantly to meet the unique needs of students and communities. One of the most important goals of NCLB is to identify areas in each district and school where improvement is needed.

At the State Board, we feel it is important for educators, parents, and communities to work together to address those areas of need. Parents can assist districts in the improvement process by participating in improvement planning with the district and participating with local school improvement planning. If you are interested in helping your district in the improvement process, please contact your local school principal or superintendent.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna J. Luallen".

Donna J. Luallen
Division Administrator
Accountability Division

2005 DISTRICT ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP) STATUS REPORT

Calculated based on 08/09/05 Approved Assessment Data and E-report Card 86-43 Data

Is this district making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)?	Yes
Is this district making AYP in reading?	Yes
Is this district making AYP in mathematics?	Yes

Has this district been identified for Federal Improvement Status?	Yes
2005-06 Federal Improvement Status	District Improvement
2005-06 State Improvement Status	Academic Early Warning

	Percent Tested on State Tests				Percent Meeting/Exceeding Standards *						Other Indicators			
	Reading		Mathematics		Reading			Mathematics			Attendance Rate		Graduation Rate	
	%	Met AYP	%	Met AYP	%	Safe Harbor Target **	Met AYP	%	Safe Harbor Target **	Met AYP	%	Met AYP	%	Met AYP
State AYP Minimum Target	95.0		95.0		47.5			47.5			89.0		67.0	
ALL	100.0	Yes	100.0	Yes	64.1		Yes	68.4		Yes	94.7	Yes		
White	100.0	Yes	100.0	Yes	65.4		Yes	69.7		Yes				
Black														
Hispanic														
Asian/Pacific Islander														
Native American														
Multiracial/Ethnic														
LEP														
Students with IEPs	100.0	Yes	100.0	Yes	30.4	30.2	Yes	37.0		Yes	93.5			
Economically Disadvantaged	100.0	Yes	100.0	Yes	53.8		Yes	59.8		Yes				

Four Conditions Are Required For Making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)
 Conditions 1, 2, and 3, applied at the school level are also applied at the district level.
 4. At least 89.0% Attendance Rate for non-high school districts, at least 67.0% Graduation Rate for high school districts, and unit school districts must meet both Attendance and Graduation conditions

* Includes only students enrolled as of 9/30/04.
 ** Safe Harbor Targets of 47.5% or above are not printed.
 *** Subgroups with fewer than 45 students are not reported. Safe Harbor only applies to subgroups of 45 or more. In order for Safe Harbor to apply, a subgroup must decrease by 10% the percentage of scores that did not meet state standards from the previous year plus meet the other indicators (attendance rate for non-high school districts, graduation rate for high school districts, and unit school districts must meet both attendance and graduation conditions) for the subgroup. Safe Harbor allows schools an alternate method to meet subgroup minimum targets on achievement.

*** Determining Eligibility for District Improvement Status ***
 Eligibility for district improvement status is based on two cases:
 1. For districts with more than one school and more than one grade span, beginning with the 2004-05 test data, district student data will be aggregated up to three grade spans – elementary (grades 3-5), middle (grades 6-8), and high school (grades 9-12). When a district does not make AYP in all of the grade spans that the district has, in the same content area, for two consecutive years, it will be identified for district improvement status. If the district makes AYP in at least one of the grade spans, it will be ineligible for district improvement status or for advancement in improvement status.
 2. For a district with only one school or a district with a single grade span, determination for district improvement status will be based on the same criteria for school improvement status.