



There are two lasting things we can give our children - one is roots, the other is wings.

## North Pemiscot R- 1 School District

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July 29, 2011

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Under the federal *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* of 2001, each state is required to assess all school districts to determine if each district has made adequate yearly progress (AYP) toward meeting the academic testing standards and additional measures set by the state. AYP decisions are based on the results of state testing in communication arts and math and the district's attendance rate and graduation rate. If the district has not made AYP for two consecutive years in any of the four areas, it is considered "in need of improvement."

Based on the results of this year's academic testing in communication arts and math and the district's attendance rate and graduation rate, the North Pemiscot school district did not make adequate yearly progress for the following reasons:

In 2009 NCLB required that 59.2% of Communication Arts third, fourth and fifth grade students score in Proficient or Advanced categories. Ross had 34.3% students score in Proficient or Advanced. In 2010 the NCLB target increased to 67.4%. Ross had 38.6 students score Proficient or Advanced. In 2011 the NCLB target increased to 75.5%. Ross had 38.6 students score Proficient or Advanced. As you can see, Ross maintained the same percentage of Proficient or Advanced students noted in the 2010 school year.

In 2009 NCLB required that 54.1% of Math third, fourth, and fifth grade students score in Proficient or Advanced categories. Ross had 31.3% students score in Proficient or Advanced. In 2010 the NCLB target increased to 63.3%. Ross had 28.6% students score Proficient or Advanced. In 2011 the NCLB target was 72.5%. Ross students increased the 2010 score of 28.6% to 42.9%. As you can see, there was an increase.

It is important to note that the 2011 test score increase placed Ross Elementary in the "School Improvement Level 1-Delayed" category. Supplemental education opportunities are offered with programs such as MAP Academy. Because of this designation, the district must develop a plan for improvement. One important component of this plan will be parent involvement in both the development and implementation of the plan.

Public school choice is an option under School Improvement Level 1-Delayed, but will not apply to North Pemiscot School due to housing only one elementary building.

You can also help by increasing your understanding of the assessment, understanding the importance of good attendance and graduating from school, visiting schools and becoming a volunteer, and engaging in reading and math strategies at home.

Information about *No Child Left Behind* and what parents can do to improve student achievement can be found at : << <http://www.ed.gov/parents/landing.jhtml>>>.

Sincerely,

Terry Hamilton  
Superintendent of Schools  
North Pemiscot R-1 School District

