

HAYES CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

501 Troth Street • P.O. Box 8

HAYES CENTER, NEBRASKA 69032

High School (308) 286-5600 • Elementary (308) 286-5601 • FAX: (308) 286-5629

November 2, 2015

Year 2 Needs Improvement SES

Dear Parent/Patron,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that according to 2014-2015 state student assessment results Hayes Center Public Schools (HCPS) is in Year 2 of Title I School Improvement for the 2015-2016 school year under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law. Schools are expected to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward that goal. The state goal for last year was to have 100% of all students in grades 3-8, & 11, be proficient on the state reading and math standards. HCPS has not made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for three consecutive years. While AYP scores on the NeSA Reading Assessment improved over last year, for the third consecutive year the subgroup of Special Education has been listed as not making adequate yearly progress in reading. HCPS continues to meet state AYP goals in math. Additional information about how our school compared to other schools in the state is available on the State of the Schools Report on the Nebraska Department of Education web site at: <http://www.education.ne.gov/documents/SOSR.html>.

Hayes Center Public Schools receives federal funds from the Title I program. These funds help students who are not achieving at grade level in math or reading in high-poverty schools. One requirement of a school identified is to establish an Accountability Compact Team to assist in planning and evaluating strategies for improvement in the elementary school. Members of the team include staff from our district, ESU staff, NDE staff, and a parent from our school district.

We are concerned about the academic progress of all of our students. The Accountability Compact Team, with district and state assistance, has identified reading as the area of concern and has researched implementing a new reading program. The team has selected a new program to implement beginning with the 2015-2016 school year. Student test scores, state assessment scores, school board input, and teacher input were all considered in making this decision.

Because HCPS has been identified as a school "in need of improvement" it must offer Public School Choice. However, because HCPS is the only elementary school in our district at the same grade level there is no transfer option available to our students.

This identification also requires HCPS to provide Supplemental Education Services (SES) to eligible students (Students who qualify for free and reduced lunch program). A list of SES providers (approved by the State Department of Education) that could provide tutoring services is available on our school website at: www.hccardinals.org. A paper copy is also available in the front office. Parents who choose to have their children participate in SES are asked to contact HCPS at 308.286.5600 by November 15, 2015 to enroll. A second enrollment window will be offered later in the school year. Once notice has been received we will make enrollment arrangements as quickly as possible and will notify parents upon approval.

We welcome your involvement at HCPS. There are many ways to participate including offering your input to the School Improvement Team, volunteering, and attending parent conferences with your child's teacher(s). Other ways to support your child's success are to assure that your child is prepared, attends school each day, and has completed their homework.

Hayes Center Public Schools held its annual meeting to develop our parent involvement policy and to review parent rights under Title I and other information August 27, 2015. The Title I district-wide parent involvement policy was reviewed this past fall and will again be reviewed this upcoming fall on a date to be announced later. You are welcome to be a part of that review process.

If you have questions about this information, please feel free to contact Phil Mahan. Please continue to work with us to make sure that we achieve success for every student.

Sincerely,



Dr. Phil Mahan

Superintendent, Hayes Center Public Schools