

GRAVETTE SCHOOL DISTRICT 20

Andrea Kelly, Ed.D., Superintendent

609 Birmingham Street S.E.
Gravette, Arkansas 72736
Office: 479.787.4100
Fax: 479.787.4108
lions@k12.ar.us

July 20, 2011

Notification of School Improvement Status

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Under the Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001, the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) is required to identify all schools in need of improvement if the school does not attain adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two consecutive years. The ADE has notified the district administration that Gravette Upper Elementary School will be subject to School Improvement Year 2 for failure to meet the state target for the percent of students proficient/advanced, during the 2010-2011 school year in the Special Education subpopulation in literacy and math. Glenn Duffy Elementary will also have this status as the students transition to third grade in the Gravette Upper Elementary School. The following information shows the expected AYP Target for the 2010-2011 school year and the school's performance for the combined population and each subpopulation in the building.

State AYP Target:

K-5 Math - 77.50%

K-5 Literacy - 78.40%

Gravette Upper Elementary Scores:

3 rd Grade Special Education Math	23%	3 rd Grade Special Education Literacy	23%
4 th Grade Special Education Math	70%	4 th Grade Special Education Literacy	40%
5 th Grade Special Education Math	29%	5 th Grade Special Education Literacy	12%

More information regarding your child's school and how it compares to all schools in the state is available from Mrs. Barbara Roberts at 479-787-4120 or visit the Arkansas Department of Education's website at <http://arkansased.org/>. The school district is committed to providing additional support to your child's schools and we are taking the following steps to address the problem of low achievement:

- Our teachers are participating in workshops this summer
- The district will be providing a summer reading program for our students

In addition, Glenn Duffy Elementary is taking measures to modify or implement the following programs during the upcoming school year that are designed to make a positive difference in teaching and learning and addresses the problem of low achievement.

- Determine the possibility of providing a Math Coach which would help both teacher and students improve in the area of math;
- Ask for parent support to encourage their children to attend school, stay all day and focus on doing their best;
- Provide Professional Development for our teachers and staff in literacy; and
- Add an interest-based program designed to provide additional opportunities for the students in literacy.

You are also very important to your child's school as a partner with the school to help address academic issues that caused the identification for improvement. Following are ways in which you can become involved:

- Make education a priority in the life of your child;
- Attend "Meet the Teacher" Night, Parent-Teacher Conferences, PTO Meetings, etc.;
- Encourage your child to come to school with a good attitude, stay all day and focus on doing their very best each day;
- Schedule doctor appointments, etc. after school hours, and
- Adopt the motto "If you miss school, you miss out."

Based on the AYP status of this school, your child is eligible to transfer to another public school in the district that is not in need of improvement, and the district will provide transportation to that school. However, there are no other schools available for School Choice in the district because we only have one school building with the configuration of grades kindergarten through second.

In the coming weeks, you may be receiving information about Supplemental Education Services (SES) providers. Any school identified for School Improvement Year 2 is required to offer SES to eligible students from low-income families. These services are available to students after the regular school day with education providers at Title I funded schools approved by the State Board of Education. If the number of eligible students who apply for SES exceeds the financial resources available the lowest achieving students from low-income families will receive first priority.

If you have any questions concerning this letter or need additional information, please contact Mr. Zane Vanderpool, Principal of Glenn Duffy Elementary School at 479-787-2120.

Sincerely,

Andrea Kelly, Ed.D