

FAIRFIELD CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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Dear Parents/Guardians of Students attending Fairfield High Preparatory School,

The *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (NCLB) requires that the Alabama State Department of Education (SDE) and our local education agency (LEA) inform parents/guardians of students about the performance of their schools toward the goal of 100% student proficiency in reading and math.

NCLB requires that every school or district that receives funds under NCLB Title I meet specific academic goals in reading and math each year as measured by the state assessment program. School and district performance toward meeting those goals is called Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). The SDE annually reviews the performance of each school that receives funds under NCLB. To make AYP, schools must meet assessment participation and performance targets in reading and math for all applicable subgroups of children in the school (race/ethnicity, low income, special needs, etc.)

Adequate yearly progress, based upon last year's test scores, was evaluated for 1,376 public schools, including 866 Title I schools. Statewide, 122 schools have been identified for School Improvement. Of those, 52 are Title I schools, compared to 73 last year. These schools must offer School Choice and/or Supplementary Education Services.

Fairfield High Preparatory School has been identified for school improvement because our school met goals in nine (9) areas, but did not achieve adequate yearly progress in Reading, according to the state accountability plan that is aligned with the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

Fairfield High Preparatory School is required to make multiple progress target goals. If just one target is not met, the district must develop a plan to meet that target. For additional information regarding the school targets and subgroups, please contact the school district representative listed at the end of the letter.

Beginning in 2004, a school that did not meet AYP in the same content area (reading or math) for two consecutive years was required to develop a plan to address those areas. **Fairfield High Preparatory School has until November 2009 to develop its plan.** It is important to note that not making AYP does not mean that the school is failing. In fact, most schools are reaching the majority of their target objectives. Rather, the intent of this process is to recommend an added focus on instruction for particular groups of children in a particular content where they are not meeting the state goals.

How can parents help their school make AYP? Here are some suggestions to help you support your school.

1. Make a special place in your home where your child can focus on practicing work assigned to be completed at home.
2. Continue to encourage your child to do well in school, making sure he or she understands your high expectations.
3. Make sure your child attends school regularly.
4. Talk with your child's teacher on a regular basis to learn ways you can continue to support your child's academic progress.
5. Talk with your LEA Central Office or your child's school about the plans that have been developed to help students make AYP in reading and mathematics.
6. Become more involved in the everyday events of your child's school by staying in contact with other parents and the parent-teacher-student organization.
7. Learn more about the NCLB requirements. Become aware of strategies to improve student academic achievement. Information and resources are available at the following Web sites:
 - The Alabama State Department of Education: www.alsde.edu
 - U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov/parents/>

Contact the person(s) listed below for further information about any of these requirements and to find out how you can become involved in these efforts.

Mrs. Barbara McCambry or Mrs. Ardrene Bishop – (205) 783-6850

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ardrene Bishop, Director of Federal Programs

Dr. Anthony C. Greene, Superintendent
Fairfield City Schools

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