



CLAY COUNTY SCHOOLS

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TO: Clay Elementary School Parents
FROM: Kenneth Tanner, Superintendent
SUBJECT: AYP Status of Clay Elementary School
DATE: August 18, 2011

I hope you are doing well and that your son or daughter is excited about school. The staff members of Clay Elementary School are looking forward to working with you and your child as this school year begins. We are committed to strengthening our academic programs as we strive for academic excellence.

We are dedicated to providing all students with the educational foundation necessary to succeed in school and in life. To ensure your child's success, we have set high standards that are reflected in what is taught in our classrooms. The *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB) requires that adequate yearly progress (AYP) in reading/language arts and mathematics be measured annually for each school in West Virginia.

AYP is based primarily on the results of the Westest 2 state assessment given to students in grades 3 through 11. Schools must meet the state's academic proficiency benchmarks, as well as other indicators such as test participation and attendance/graduation rate, to make AYP. These benchmarks increase on an incremental basis every year. Schools that do not make AYP for one year, receive a warning to alert them that students did not meet at least one of the AYP indicators. If a school does not make AYP for *two or more* consecutive years in the same content area it is identified as a school in need of improvement and certain sanctions must be applied. Clay Elementary School did not make AYP for the first time with the 2010-2011 Westest 2 results.

The Clay Elementary School staff will be re-evaluating the school's strategic plan to identify ways to restructure and strengthen instructional and support programs for students as a result of not meeting Adequate Yearly Progress and the state standards. As a parent, you are encouraged to contact your child's school principal to provide input to the school strategic plan and see how you can become involved in helping the school address its achievement issues. We want to continue serving your child, and we'll use all the resources available to us to help our students achieve.

We hope you will join us in supporting our students and teachers as we work toward reaching our goals for next year. We encourage you to contact us throughout the year with your suggestions and concerns. We recognize our shared interests and responsibilities we have for children, and we want to work with you to create better programs and opportunities for *all* students. We believe that strong parent-school partnerships are very important in helping students succeed! Questions concerning this issue should be directed to Michelle Paxton, Principal of Clay Elementary School or Joan Haynie, Title I Director. Please check out our website at www.claycountyschools.org and the Clay Elementary School site at www.clayelementaryschool.org for updates about our schools. Thank you for your time and support.