

ANGEL TAVERAS  
Mayor

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Superintendent



Providence Public School District  
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June 3, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB) provides for parents/guardians who have children attending schools identified as needing improvement to be notified of the school's academic achievement. This letter is intended to provide additional information concerning the options available to your child under NCLB. Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is one of the cornerstones of the NCLB Act. It is a measure of the year-to-year student achievement on statewide tests. Title I schools that do not meet the State standard for AYP for two or more consecutive years are placed in *In Need of Improvement* (INI) status. NCLB requires the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) to rate school performance based on several targets including student achievement in English Language Arts and Mathematics, attendance and test participation for the determination of AYP. Detailed information about AYP is located at <http://www.eride.ri.gov/reportcard/11/default.asp>.

In compliance with the requirements of NCLB, all students enrolled in a school that is in year one or greater of *In Need of Improvement* are offered the opportunity to enroll in a school that is not designated as INI. The transfer option is known as Public School Choice. If a Title I school is in year two or greater of *In Need of Improvement*, students who are eligible for free or reduced price meals and remain in the assigned home school may receive Supplemental Education Services (SES). SES is free, small-group tutoring provided by State approved providers chosen by the parent/guardian.

At this time, there are no middle school options available for Choice. However, during the 2011-2012 school year, SES will be offered for eligible high school students who attend Stuart and Williams.

Parents/guardians who desire to apply for SES for the 2011-2012 school year must complete a registration form which will be sent out to all eligible students in a separate mailing. Eligible students are those students at SES eligible schools who receive free or reduced lunch. There is limited space and funding for the SES program, therefore priority will be given to eligible students with the greatest academic need.

In addition to SES, the Providence School District has a number of plans for increasing student achievement, including the improvement of reading and math instruction, professional training for Providence teachers, and enhanced services to English Language Learners. As Superintendent, I would like to invite you personally to partner in improving student performance by reading with your child, helping your child complete homework, meeting regularly with your child's teacher, and joining the school improvement team or parent teacher organization (PTO). I encourage you to call Providence Schools' Parent Resource Center at 456-0686 to speak with our multilingual staff for more information.

I am confident that, through our partnership, 2011-2012 will continue the educational improvement of all schools in Providence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas M. Brady".

Thomas M Brady  
Superintendent