



Raymore-Peculiar School District

Accredited with Distinction – FIVE CONSECUTIVE YEARS

Office of the Superintendent and Board of Education

21005 S. School Rd., P.O. Box 789, Peculiar, MO 64078

Phone: 816.892.1300 * Fax: 816.892.1380

July 28, 2011

Dear Raymore-Peculiar School District Parent or Guardian,

Under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001, each state is required to assess all school districts to determine if each district has made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward meeting the academic testing standards and additional measures set by the state. AYP decisions are based on the results of state testing in communication arts, math, the district's attendance rate and graduation rate. If the district has not made AYP for two consecutive years in any one of the four areas, it is considered "in need of improvement."

Based on the results of this year's academic testing in communication arts and math and the district's attendance rate and graduation rate, the Raymore-Peculiar School District did not make Adequate Yearly Progress for the following reasons:

- Two of seven sub-group populations did not meet the NCLB standards of AYP's 74.5 percent proficient in the category of communication arts.
- Two of seven sub-group populations did not meet the NCLB standard of AYP's 72.5 percent proficient in the category of mathematics.

While the Raymore-Peculiar School District continues to experience annual improvement in academic achievement and has been accredited with distinction for the past five years, the challenge to meet the proficiency rates of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act still exist. It is estimated the Raymore-Peculiar School District will be among an estimated 400 plus Missouri school districts (out of 524 districts in the state) designated as "in need of improvement" based on the NCLB Act's AYP goals.

Although the goals of No Child Left Behind, including accountability for student achievement, are worthwhile, the law's punitive nature fails to recognize a district's overall progress toward meeting the objective of success for each child. A district that does not meet NCLB proficiency targets in as few as one of seven sub-groups in either communication arts or math results in a designation of "in need of improvement" for the district as a whole.

Because of this designation, the district must develop a plan for improvement. During the 2011-12 school year the district will involve appropriate stakeholders to revise the Board of Education approved Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP). The CSIP will be the district's plan for improvement. One component of this plan will be parent involvement as a crucial part of student success. In addition, you can help by increasing your understanding of state assessments given, understanding the importance of good attendance and graduation from high school, visiting schools and becoming a volunteer, and engaging your child in reading and math support at home. Information about No Child Left Behind and what parents can do to improve student achievement is available at: <http://www.ed.gov/parents/landing.jhtml>.

Thank you for your continued support of Ray-Pec schools and your interest in your child's education. We look forward to a successful school year and will continue our efforts to meet the needs of each student.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeff Kyle
Superintendent