



Myron B. Thompson Academy
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May 18, 2010

Dear Parents:

Our school is dedicated to helping students succeed. We have high expectations for our students in line with federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) standards.

Annually, the Hawaii Department of Education releases a report on the "adequate yearly progress" (AYP) that schools make towards achieving proficiency for students under NCLB. The SY 2009-2010 AYP report is scheduled for release mid-July 2010 and will be available on the Department's website <http://www.doe.k12.hi.us/> the following day.

The Department also places schools in a specific "NCLB status" category depending on how many years each school has made or not made progress. Our school will be in the NCLB status category for School Year 2010-2011.

Restructuring

We are committed to achieving our goal of success for every student. For more about AYP, what we are doing to help students achieve, and what we can offer you and your child, please see the questions and answers posted on the school website under AYP.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diana Oshiro".

Diana Oshiro

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

1. WHAT IS AYP?

The Hawaii Department of Education determines the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) of public schools under NCLB. Each public school in Hawaii must meet as many as 37 targets to make AYP. To meet performance targets, at least 58 percent of the students in the school must get scores that are “proficient” or better on the reading test and 46 percent of students must get scores that are “proficient” or better on the math test. Also at least 95% of students must be tested. Elementary schools should not retain more than 2% of their students. Middle schools should not retain more than 5% of their students. High schools must graduate at least 80% of their freshmen within four years.

2. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF OUR SCHOOL?

Schools are classified as Title I or Non-Title I schools based on the percent of the students in the school who are eligible for free or reduced meals.

Currently our school is a:

- Title I School
 Non-Title I School

Our school will be or may be in the following NCLB status category for SY 2010-2011:

- Good Standing, Unconditional
 Good Standing, Pending
 School Improvement Year 1
 School Improvement Year 2
 Corrective Action
 Planning for Restructuring
 Restructuring

3. WHAT CHOICES DO I HAVE FOR MY CHILD?

Students who attend a Title I school:

- a. Public School Choice – for Title I schools in NCLB status (School Improvement Year 1 to Restructuring)
- 1) All Title I schools in NCLB status (those listed above) must offer parents the choice of transferring their child to a non-status school on their island. A non-status school is one that is In Good Standing, Unconditional or In Good Standing, Pending.
 - 2) Attached is a list of schools on our island to which you may apply for a transfer. Please come to our school office to receive more information.
 - 3) For parents with students at Title I schools only: If you choose to transfer your child, information on free transportation is also available at our school office.

- b. Supplemental Educational Services (SES – Free Tutoring) - for Title I schools in NCLB status (School Improvement Year 2 to Restructuring) must offer parents of eligible students (students who receive free or reduced priced meals) the opportunity to receive free tutoring (Supplemental Educational Services –SES) in reading or math or science for their children. Information on free tutoring for eligible students will be sent to these parents at a later date, as well as information on extra academic help for students not eligible for SES.

Students who attend a Non-Title I school:

- c. Extra academic help and other extended learning opportunities – for Non-Title I schools in NCLB status (School Improvement Year 2 to Restructuring): Please come to the school for information on extra academic help and other extended learning opportunities for your child, for example:
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4. WHAT IS THE SCHOOL DOING TO IMPROVE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT?

School staff are working on revising our academic plan and financial plan to focus our efforts and resources to help our students.

5. WHAT IS THE DEPARTMENT DOING TO HELP THE SCHOOL MAKE PROGRESS?

The Department is helping our school by:

- Giving information on effective curriculum and instructional strategies;
- Analyzing student performance data to guide decisions; and
- Increasing staff training and planning.

6. HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED IN THE HELPING THE SCHOOL?

As a parent or guardian, you can help the school address raising your child’s performance by:

- Coming to parent-school meetings and workshops;
- Supporting your child’s good study habits;
- Reviewing your child’s homework and test results; and
- Setting goals with your child.