



Gila County Regional School District No. 49

112 West Cedar Lane
 Payson, Arizona 85541
 Phone (928) 468-8509 ~ Fax (928) 468-8534

Parent Notification Letter School Improvement (SI) Parent Option Letter – Year 1

August 23, 2011

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian:

In January 2002, the *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB) was signed into law to improve educational opportunities for all children attending a Title I school. This federally funded program provides assistance to schools serving students who are at risk for academic failure. This legislation supports the school district's efforts to provide a strong standards-based educational program for students along with accountability for student achievement.

The Payson Education Center operates a Title I program. NCLB requires that all Title I schools make **Adequate Yearly Progress** (AYP) in all indicators for two consecutive years. Parents of children attending Title I schools that have not made AYP are required to be notified of the school's AYP status.

Parents of children attending Title I schools that have not made AYP have the option of Public School Choice with free transportation to a school not identified for improvement.

The table below details the AYP determination for our school.

AYP Determination	Yes or No
Met 95% Percent Tested in Math?	Yes
Met 95% Percent Tested in Reading?	Yes
Met Annual Measurable Objectives in Math?	Yes
Met Annual Measurable Objectives in Reading?	Yes
Met 90% K-8 Attendance Rate?	NA
Met 80 % High School Graduation Rate or Increased 2% from Previous Year?	No

As a result of the above, our school is currently identified to be in **Year 1 of Title I School Improvement**. However, it is to be noted that our school is rated as "Performing" by the State of Arizona.

The following chart provides a comparison of our school to other elementary or secondary schools in our district and in the State as required by NCLB.

Grade	My School	My District	Arizona Schools	My School	My District	Arizona Schools
	% Proficient in Math	% Proficient in Math	% Proficient in Math	% Proficient in Reading	% Proficient in Reading	% Proficient in Reading
3			68			76
4			65			75
5			63			79
6			59			81

7			61			82
8			54			71
2013 cohort	10%	14%	60	60%	47%	78

School Choice

Although there are two other schools in our district, it is not realistic to transfer students to these schools.

School Improvement Plan

We have been working with the district and the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to revise the Arizona School Improvement Plan for our school. In order to address the indicators of not making AYP, the district and ADE are assisting our school in:

- Providing support in developing/revising an Arizona School Improvement Plan (i.e., leadership mentoring, high-quality ongoing professional development, facilities, adopting research-based interventions, logistics, and instructional time);
- Coordinating resources (i.e., instructional and non-instructional staff, state and federal funding).

The school is implementing the following strategies to address the indicator(s) of not making AYP:

- *Curricular and instructional improvements in math and reading instruction*
- *Systematic evaluation and review of curriculum and instructional delivery*
- *Providing an environment that is safe and conducive to learning*
- *Additional learning/ tutoring time for students*

We encourage you to become involved by participating in the development of the Arizona School Improvement Plan. Please contact Mrs. Peggy Miles at (928) 468-8509, if you are interested in being part of a committee or would like more information on our school. As a reminder, our Title I annual meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 24 @ 7:00pm at Payson Education Center. Our instructional staff will be available to answer questions.

Educationally yours,

Mrs. Peggy Miles
School Principal

Dr. Richard Vierling
Federal Programs Coordinator