



EAST HAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EAST HAMPTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

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NANCY BRIERE
Principal

JASON LEHMANN
Assistant Principal

August 29, 2011

Dear EHMS parents/guardians:

In January 2002, the U. S. Congress passed a federal education law called No Child Left Behind (NCLB). This federal law requires states to set specific student achievement goals that all schools must meet each year. Achievement goals for Connecticut students are based on the Grade 3-8 Connecticut Mastery Test. For a middle school to make adequate yearly progress (AYP) for the 2009-10 school year the law requires:

- 95 percent of students who attend the school in Grades 3-8 take the test;
- 79 percent score proficient or above in reading;
- 82 percent score proficient or above in math; and
- 70 percent score basic or above in writing or percentage at/above basic improves from previous year.

Schools must meet these goals both as a “whole school” and also within all school “subgroups”, but many schools do not have enough students to constitute a subgroup and are therefore exempt from this standard. EHMS currently has one subgroup. If a school has not made AYP for two consecutive years, it is identified as “in need of improvement”. As you are aware East Hampton Middle School was identified in need of improvement entering school year 2009-2010. We are pleased to inform you that East Hampton Middle School has made AYP entering school year 2010-2011. Since a school’s designation does not change unless the school makes AYP for two consecutive years, the school will remain “on hold” this year. As a result, this school must offer Public School Choice and Supplemental Educational Services (SES).

- fewer than 79 percent of our special education “subgroup” scored proficient or above in reading; and
- fewer than 82 percent of our special education “subgroup” scored proficient or above in math.

Since EHMS has been identified as “in need of improvement” under NCLB, we are required to offer Public School Choice. If available, Public School Choice would give you the option to have your child transfer to another school in a district that is not identified as “in need of improvement”. As you know, we do not have another school in our district that serves grades 6-8. For further information regarding Public School Choice, please visit <http://www.csde.state.ct.us/public/cedar/nclb/sip/index.htm>.

Your child may also be eligible to receive supplemental educational services (SES). In accordance with Federal Law, SES is free tutoring that is only available to low income students from schools that are

identified as “in need of improvement” under NCLB. These services are offered by state approved providers and occur outside of the regular school day. If your child receives free/reduced lunch, an application for SES is enclosed. If you feel you would meet the qualifications, but have not enrolled for free/reduced lunch, please call us and we will send you an application.

We want you to know that the outstanding staff of EHMS is working to ensure that all of our students meet the state academic goals. To that end, we have developed a rigorous school improvement plan and our teachers and staff are being provided with high quality professional development to help meet our goals. We also have many programs already in place designed to support us in these efforts, including homework clubs, Scientific Research Based interventions (SRBI), and after school teacher help to name a few.

We encourage you to provide us with input as we strive to help all of our students succeed now and in the future. If you have questions about Public School Choice, SES, or to find out about ways you can get involved with our school, please contact us at (860)365-4060 or jfidler@easthamptonct.org. We truly believe parent and community involvement is critical to our success.

Sincerely,

Nancy Briere
East Hampton Middle School, Principal