
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SEWARD

410 South Street

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Tom Vajgrt, Maintenance Supervisor

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that according to 2014-2015 state student assessment results Seward Elementary is in Year 1 of Title I School Improvement for the 2014-2015 school year under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law. Schools are expected to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward that goal. The state goal for last year was to have 100% of all students in grades 3-8, & 11 be proficient on the reading and math standards. Seward Elementary has not made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for two consecutive years. Seward Elementary's scores on the NeSA Reading Assessment has improved over last year. For the second consecutive year, one of our subgroups has not made adequate yearly progress in reading and math. Additional information about how our school compared to other schools in the state is available on the State of the Schools Report on the Nebraska Department of Education web site at: <http://www.education.ne.gov/documents/SOSR.html>.

Seward Elementary receives federal funds from the Title I program. These funds help students who are not achieving at grade level in the area of reading. One requirement of a school identified is to establish an Accountability Compact Team to assist in planning and evaluating strategies for improvement in the elementary school, this has been accomplished through the work of our action teams that are working on specific results from our school improvement plan.

We are concerned about the academic progress of all of our students. Through a year long curriculum process Seward Elementary has adopted a new research based reading resource, Reading Street K-6. This core program utilizes a balanced literacy approach to help meet the needs of all readers. The Elementary also utilizes Leveled Literacy Intervention for struggling readers in Tier II intervention along with the My Sidewalks Program which is a Tier III program.

Because Seward Elementary has been identified as a school "in need of improvement" it must offer Public School Choice. However, because Seward Elementary is the only public elementary school in our district there is no transfer option available to our students.

We welcome your involvement at Seward Elementary. There are many ways to participate including offering your input to the School Improvement Team, volunteering, and attending parent conferences with your child's teacher(s). Other ways to support your child's success are to assure that your child is prepared, attends school each day, and has completed his/her homework.

Seward Elementary held its annual meeting to develop our parent involvement policy and to review parent rights under Title I and other information September 24th, 2015. The Title I district-wide parent involvement policy was reviewed at the April 13th, 2015 School Board meeting and will again be reviewed this upcoming fall on a date to be announced later. You are welcome to be a part of that review process.

If you have questions about this information, please feel free to contact Dr. Fields at 402-643-2986. A letter from the Nebraska Commissioner of Education is also enclosed.

Sincerely,

Dr. Greg Barnes