



Southside High School

An International Baccalaureate High School

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"Creating a Common School Culture of Excellence" Fax 864-355-8798

August 17, 2011

Dear Parent,

This letter is sent to provide information to you about the federal requirements for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) as defined by the No Child Left Behind Act.

AYP provides another method to measure student progress. AYP goals are set by the state and differ from other states' goals. To meet AYP goals, high schools must annually achieve an 88.3% student graduation rate, meet or exceed last year's graduation rate, or meet or exceed its three-year average graduation rate. Also, tenth grade and other second year high school students must meet or exceed the following percentages of students scoring at Level 3 or Level 4 on the High School Assessment Program (HSAP) Tests:

HSAP	2003-05	2006-08	2009-11	2012-13	2014
English/Language Arts	33.3%	52.3%	71.3%	90.3%	100%
Mathematics	30.0%	50.0%	70.0%	90.0%	100%

Although proficiency cut scores and achievement tests differ from state-to-state, the No Child Left Behind Act calls for ALL students in the U.S. to achieve the Proficient level or higher (Level 3 or 4 on HSAP) on state tests by 2014. In South Carolina, that means ALL student groups will have to show considerable improvement each year on the HSAP tests. The student groups are: All, White, African-American, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, American Indian/Alaskan, Limited English Proficiency, Disabled, and Free-Reduced Price Lunch Participants. If just one student subgroup fails to meet one of the performance or percentage tested objectives in a given year, that school will fail to meet AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) for that year. Schools with diverse student populations face more challenges to meet AYP. For some schools, that means significant improvement must be made each year on up to 37 different goals.

For 2010-11, Southside High School did not meet AYP. Our school met 8 of our 15 AYP target goals for the year.

Because we did not make Adequate Yearly Progress, our school will focus on ways to close achievement gaps and bring every student to the Proficient level (Level 3 or Level 4 on HSAP). 42.7% of students overall at our school are performing at Level 3 or Level 4 on the High School Assessment Program (HSAP) test in Math and 53.4% are performing at Level 3 or Level 4 in English/Language Arts on the HSAP. Our on-time graduation rate is 64.6%.

If you have questions about our school's AYP result, please call me. For further information about Adequate Yearly Progress, please visit the Greenville County Schools website at www.greenville.k12.sc.us.

Sincerely,

Carlos Brooks,
Principal