



December 16, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) federal legislation is designed to ensure that all students will meet the performance benchmarks on the State's high academic standards. Districts and schools were provided with appropriate guidance from the United States Department of Education and the Oklahoma State Department of Education. The NCLB legislation requires districts to notify parents if the district fails to attain those standards.

Each year, the Oklahoma State Department of Education issues Performance Targets in five report areas: Mathematics, Reading, Percent of Students Tested, Attendance Rates, and Graduation Rates. In order to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), each district must meet these targets in every demographic sub-category. The following chart details the State's Performance Targets and whether Tulsa Public Schools (TPS) met those targets.

<i>Report Area</i>	<i>State Performance Target</i>	<i>TPS made AYP?</i>
Mathematics	1074	No
Reading	1060	No
% of Students Tested	95%	Yes
Attendance Rate	92%	Yes
Graduation Rate	62%	Yes

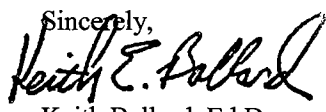
*For more complete analysis, access the 2011 Oklahoma District Accountability Data Report located on the Tulsa Public Schools website.

Since TPS did not meet the Performance Targets in Mathematics and Reading, the District has been identified for Year Two of District Improvement. In order to ensure that TPS is on target to meet AYP in the current school year, the District has undertaken carefully selected initiatives designed to improve performance:

- 1) Teacher/Leader Effectiveness Initiative – implementing more effective teacher and leader evaluations as well as new student growth measures that help teachers target areas of student achievement;
- 2) deploying high quality professional development, tied to evaluation and student growth data, that specifically targets improved classroom teaching;
- 3) planning implementation of the new Common Core State Standards; and
- 4) streamlining District initiatives to focus on those demonstrated to be most vital.

You are encouraged to contact your child's school to learn about opportunities to become involved in helping our schools and district improve. You may serve as a parent/guardian representative on your school's annual site planning team. You may also become involved by volunteering, participating in family literacy/mathematics nights, or joining your school's Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA). Parental participation and support significantly improves the probability of student success.

Thank you for your support of Tulsa Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Keith Ballard, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools