

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act's purpose is to ensure that all children in the United States receive a quality education and are academically successful in a high-performing educational environment. Under NCLB, each state is required to assess schools to determine whether each school has made adequate yearly progress (AYP), which means that they have met the academic testing standards set by the state. If the school has not made AYP for two consecutive years, it is considered a School In Need Of Improvement (SINOI).

Based on the results of this year's academic testing in reading and math your child's school did not make adequate yearly progress. By visiting the New Mexico Public Education Department's website (www.ped.state.nm.us) and clicking on AYP 2011, you can learn more about why the school did not make AYP as well as learn how the school compares in academic achievement to other schools in the district and state.

Because your child's school is a SINOI school, your child is eligible for public school choice options. There are two options available for your child as follows:

1. Remain at the current school.
2. Transfer to a school in your district that DOES NOT have an NCLB designation. Note: districts may limit choice options based on health and safety considerations.

If you would like to exercise your NCLB choice option, please complete the Transfer Request Form included with this letter, and return it to the district office by February 1, 2012. The district will provide transportation for your child under an NCLB transfer as long as funding is available. If the demands for transfers exceed available funding, the priority to provide transportation is for low-achieving, low-income students.

Whether you decide to request a transfer for your child or not, we encourage you to become involved with your child's school to support school improvement. To learn more about how to get involved, visit the New Mexico Public Education Department's Parent, Family, and Community Resources page by going to www.ped.state.nm.us and clicking on the "A to Z" link in the upper right corner, then by going to the letter "P". You may also access the Family/Community Toolkit on this page.

Here are some ideas on how to become more involved at home.

- Establish daily family routines for homework (time/space/supplies) and reading (together and independently).
- Monitor out-of-school activities by limiting television watching to less than 12 hours a week.
- Set age-appropriate and specific expectations about school achievement.

Specifically you can become involved in the development and implementation of our Educational Plan for Student Success (EPSS) by attending governance council meetings where academic improvement is discussed.

Your child's school is working hard to address the problem of low achievement by providing tutoring to students who qualify for services.

The district is working with your child's school to address the issue of low achievement by providing professional development to teachers, making changes to classroom teaching staff and examining specific student academic test scores in order to pinpoint areas of need.

Please remember that if you do not complete and return the transfer application by February 1, 2012 your child will remain at his/her current school. If you have any questions, if you do not have access to the internet, or if you would like additional information, please call Amie M. Duran or Cynthia Carter or feel free to visit us at Horizon Academy West, 1900 Atrisco Rd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120.

Sincerely,

Amie M. Duran

Director

Horizon Academy West