

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF GIDEON NO. 37

Web Address: <http://gideon.k12.mo.us>

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Gideon, Missouri 63848

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July 28, 2011

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Under the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001, each state is required to assess all school districts/local education agencies (LEAs) to determine if each district/LEA has made adequate yearly progress (AYP) toward meeting the academic testing standards and additional measures set by the state. AYP decisions are based on the results of state testing in communication arts and math and the district's/LEAs attendance rate and graduation rate. If the district/LEA has not made AYP for two consecutive years in any one of the four areas, it is considered "in need of improvement."

Based on the results of the 2010-2011 academic testing in communication arts and math and the district's/LEA's attendance rate and graduation rate, the Gideon School District did not make adequate yearly progress for the following reasons:

1. The district did not meet the state achievement target in Communication Arts when considering overall student achievement. The district did meet appropriate targets in overall student achievement markers for Mathematics. In addition to the overall areas, the district did not meet the state achievement targets in four of six subgroup areas. The Gideon School District has a total of six subgroups that are evaluated in addition to the performance of all students. There are three subgroups in communication arts and three in mathematics. These subgroups must also meet the same state achievement targets in order for the district to make adequate yearly progress. For Gideon, the subgroups are analyzed by race, free and reduced lunch status, and IEP students. Overall, the district demonstrated satisfactory progress in two of the six subgroup areas. When considering overall achievement and subgroup achievement combined, the district met the target in three of eight total areas. Furthermore, the district met the attendance and graduation rate indicators.
2. The state proficiency targets in mathematics and communications arts consider the percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced on the state testing each year. For 2011, the communication arts proficiency target was 75.5% and the mathematics proficiency target was 72.5%.

Because this is the third year of this designation, the district/LEA is considered to be in Level 3 of District/LEA Improvement, Corrective Action. We will evaluate and update the plan for improvement that has been developed. One important component of this plan is parent involvement in the implementation of the plan. The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will review the district's/LEA's progress toward meeting the goals and objectives of the plan and may impose additional sanctions.

You can help by increasing our understanding of the assessment, understanding the importance of good attendance and graduating from school, visiting schools and becoming a volunteer, and engaging in reading and math strategies at home.

Information about No Child Left Behind and what parents can do to improve student achievement can be found at: <http://www.ed.gov/parents/landing.jhtml>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David F. Hollingshead". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'D' and 'H'.

David F. Hollingshead
Superintendent of Schools

Gideon School District
PO Box 227
Gideon, MO 63848