ELLICOTT SCHOOL DISTRICT 22

Home of the Thunderhawks

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

Based on the Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) for Reading and Math from the 2010-2011 school year, Ellicott Elementary School, the school your child attends, has been identified as year one school improvement. Ellicott Elementary School did not meet all 26 targets for adequate yearly progress (AYP) on CSAP for Reading or Math in the 2010-2011 school year, thus identifying the school for improvement. Ellicott Elementary School met all AYP targets for the following school years: 2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2009-2010.

Your child's school and district are committed to ensuring that all children reach proficient levels of achievement. Despite the gains made by Ellicott Elementary School, the school did not meet adequate yearly progress and is required to offer you the opportunity to transfer your student to another public school in the same school district that is not on School Improvement. However, there is only one elementary school in Ellicott District #22, which prevents us from being able to offer a choice of school. Since our school did not meet the expected level of performance, the Ellicott School District is required to inform parents of the choice option, even though there is not an option for choice at this time.

Although public school choice is not available, the school provides other types of services for our students:

- Common planning time for grade-level teachers in order to be able to share knowledge about effective teaching strategies
- Grade level team meetings to discuss and make decisions about instruction based on the data
- Title I/Literacy Resource teacher and paraprofessionals who provide additional reading and math instruction
- Some teachers hold additional teaching sessions for struggling students
- All students participate in intervention/enrichment in literacy and math instruction during the school day.

Ellicott School District #22 is also providing support to Ellicott Elementary School in efforts to improve student achievement:

- District alignment of curricula for reading and math, including common assessments

- District #22 is working with other area school districts to adopt and implement curriculum that is aligned with the new Colorado Academic Standards (to be fully implemented in school year 2013-2014)
- Professional development on data analysis and use of data to drive instruction
- Implementation of grant and Unified Improvement Planning steps that target curriculum alignment, quality first instruction, and increasing leadership capacity

How can you be involved in addressing our academic challenges? Ellicott District #22 has many avenues to become involved in addressing our academic challenges. Parents can assist students by working with their students on schoolwork, attending parent conferences and making sure their children attend school daily. You may also take advantage of one of the many opportunities for more personal involvement. These include:

- Attending monthly accountability meetings
- Becoming a parent volunteer at Ellicott Elementary School
- Volunteering for one of the District Accountability/School Accountability Committees
- Keeping well informed about what is going on in the school by reading our monthly newsletter
- Becoming involved with our PTA
- Talking with your child's teacher about other ways you can help in the classroom and at home

Those of us in Ellicott School District want to keep you informed about our school improvement process. Please contact Ellicott Elementary Principal Julie Joseph (683-2700 X 1) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



H. Terry Ebert
Superintendent
Ellicott School District #22