

Logan Township School District

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Dear Parents of Logan Elementary School,

We are dedicated to providing all students with the educational foundation necessary to succeed in school and in life. To ensure your child's success, the federal and state governments have set high standards that are reflected in what is taught in our classrooms. The *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* requires that adequate yearly progress (AYP) in language arts literacy (LAL) and mathematics be measured annually for each school in New Jersey, using ASK test results.

AYP is based primarily on the results of the New Jersey state assessments given to students in grades 3 through 8 and grade 11. Schools must meet the state's academic proficiency benchmarks, as well as other indicators such as test participation and attendance rate, to make AYP. These benchmarks increase on an incremental basis every three years. This past year, the benchmarks increased **significantly** as indicated below:

**Chart indicates required % of students reaching
proficiency in all 40 indicators**

	ASK test 2010 benchmark	ASK test 2011 benchmark
LAL Elementary Gr.3, 4 & 5	59	79
Math Elementary Gr. 3, 4 & 5	66	83

**Due to the dramatic increase (in benchmarks set
by the state) cited above, the Logan Elementary Grades 2 to 5
did not make AYP this year.**

Schools in the state that did not make AYP for one year (Year 1) receive an Early Warning designation to alert them that students did not meet at least one of the AYP indicators. If a school does not make AYP for *two or more* consecutive years in the same content area (language arts literacy or mathematics) it is identified as a school in need of improvement. **Logan Elementary School (Grades 2 to 5) has not met the AYP benchmark listed above in the area of Language Arts Literacy (LAL) for the second consecutive year.**

The school improvement requirements which apply to Logan Elementary School (Grades 2 to 5) are listed below:

- ✓ *Year 2: School Choice within the district:* This is *not* an option in Logan Township School District since all students of one grade go to the same school.
- ✓ *Year 2: Supplemental Educational Services:* available to income-eligible students. (Parents will be notified separately if their child is eligible for these afterschool services.)

All N.J. schools in need of improvement that receive Title I funds must assemble a school improvement committee to develop a school improvement plan that identifies

areas of need and programs and activities to help increase student achievement. As a parent, you are encouraged to contact Dr. Fisicaro or Mrs. Patricia Meiluta to provide input to the school improvement plan and see how you can become involved in helping the school address its achievement issues.

Some of the steps we have already taken or plan to implement this year to address the problem(s) that placed your child's school in improvement status include the following:

- Clustered students, this summer, in classrooms based on Instructional Reading Levels as well as ASK and MAP scores
- Developed specialist model for LAL and Math Instruction in grades 4 & 5
- Created multiple ways of delivering BSI support (push-in; pull-out and replacement classes based on needs of students) for both Math and/or LAL
- Dedicated time in schedule for word study instruction and math fact fluency in all grades
- Added a co-teaching model to fourth grade
- Created six classes of LAL instead of 4 in 5th grade; allows for improved teacher/student ratio
- Issued laptops for all fifth graders to increase time to compose, daily, on computers
- Focus on independent and meaningful learning during center time
- Plan to regularly use data with the help of technology (DIBELS and MAP testing) to monitor instruction throughout the school year
- Curriculum work with LAL Coach on comprehension & writing in response to reading text and in Writing units of study aligned with Common Core Standards
- Curriculum work with Math Coach on implementation of effective math workshop; alignment of Math Curriculum to Common Core Standards and development of differentiated math assessments

We want to continue serving your child, and we'll use all the resources available to help our students achieve. An important part of this effort involves parental involvement and support. We want you to become involved at Logan by contacting Mrs. Patricia Meiluta, Supervisor of Student Services at pmeiluta@logan.k12.nj.us. Building and maintaining a high-quality school, is a job for the entire community.

To address this SINI (Schools In Need of Improvement) status and the SES (Supplemental Educational Services) which will be provided this year through Title I, I will be presenting a power point slide show on the ASK scores and AYP in the Logan Elementary School library at **7:45 PM on Tuesday, September 27th during Back -to-School Night**. I hope you have the time to come and listen to my presentation. At the conclusion of this presentation, you will have the opportunity to ask questions about this important issue.

We will continue to communicate with you regarding the school improvement efforts underway and hope you will join us in supporting our students and teachers as we work toward reaching our goals for next year.

Sincerely,

Patricia L. Haney
Superintendent