



Belle Plaine Public Schools
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<http://www.belleplaine.k12.mn.us>

July 9, 2010

Dear Parents or Guardian:

The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires that all schools in the nation make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward achieving the goal of all students being proficient in reading and math. As you may be aware, Belle Plaine Public Schools has been designated as a district in *Corrective Action* due to not making AYP for four years.

Not making AYP for a district is determined by aggregating the results of academic achievement measures in reading/language arts and mathematics, student participation rates in these assessments, graduation rates, and for elementary and middle schools, the attendance rates. Many times tested subgroups are not large enough to meet the minimum group size at an individual school level. However, when all of the data is compiled into one report at the district level the number will, in many cases, reach or surpass the minimum group size at the district level, and thus, possibly identify the district as not making adequate yearly progress even though no individual building in the district has been identified. This year, as a District, we did not make AYP in the following area:

- Math proficiency for our special education population.

A district improvement team has been and will continue to analyze all available assessment information to pinpoint strengths and areas of emphasis that will be addressed through professional development and a review of the curriculum. At the current time we look to possibly add additional mathematics classes and begin implementation of Response to Intervention (RtI) in the area of mathematics. RtI provides a structured framework to improve student achievement.

We encourage you to be involved in improving the quality of education at our school district by participating on the district improvement team, talking with your child's teacher about how you can support your child's education or contacting the school district for more information.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at any time at 952.873.2400 or ksmith@belleplaine.k12.mn.us

Sincerely,

Kelly D. Smith
Superintendent