

**Drew Central High School
250 University Drive
Monticello, Arkansas 71655**

August 4, 2009

Re: School Status Parent Notification Letter

Dear Parents of Drew Central High School,

This letter is to inform you of the results of the yearly testing as it impacts our district and school's progress towards Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

According to the Arkansas Department of Education's report, Drew Central High School has met standards for Adequate Yearly Progress in Math for the 2008-2009. The school did not meet standards for Literacy performance this year.

The status of Drew Central High School is "Whole School Intensive Improvement – 4;" meaning the high school is in its fifth year of school improvement for not meeting AYP in Literacy. The high school's score in Math, however, was at or above AYP for 2008-2009.

	AYP - Literacy 2009-2010	High School % Proficient	Region	State
Combined Population	59.69%	44.6%	42%	56%
African American	59.69%	24%	26%	29%
Caucasian	59.69%	40.9%	60%	66%
Economically Disadvantaged	59.69%	40.9%	33%	40%

The high school's status is being appealed to the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE), and a decision from the department of education will be forthcoming by late October, 2009. This decision will affect not only the high school's status, but may also affect the middle school's and or district's school improvement status as well.

Until word of the decision is made, Drew Central School District will make every effort to abide by the rules and regulations of the Arkansas Department of Education. Drew Central High School is implementing other restructuring actions consistent with state law that will improve academic achievement hopefully resulting in meeting AYP in the 2009-2010 school year.

In 2009-10 an instructional specialist for grades 9-12, has been employed to address literacy in all high school curriculum/content areas. Teachers will also be given release time to work on assessment, evaluation and realignment of curriculum to student needs as outlined in the Arkansas Curriculum Frameworks.

A school improvement plan for the high school has been developed by the teachers, academic coaches, administrators, and parents, along with technical assistance provided by the ADE's school improvement specialist. Parents wishing to be a part of this district improvement committee are invited to contact Mrs. Joy Graham, Federal Programs Coordinator (870-367-5235 or jgraham@drewcentral.org).

To learn more about parental involvement opportunities in Drew Central High School, please feel free to contact Ron Graham, High School Parent Facilitator, at 870-367-6076, or rgarham@drewcentral.org. We are in the process of implementing the "Home Access Center" (HAC) for parents to check their student's grade on-line. We will inform you when this system is operational.

Under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, schools in School Improvement Year 2 and beyond must offer School Choice and Supplemental Educational Services (SES) for their students. Drew Central High School is unable to offer school choice, however, since our district does has only one high school in the district; Supplemental Educational Services, grades 9-12, will be provided by after school tutoring. For further information, please call Mrs. Joy Graham, Federal Programs Coordinator.

Other after school tutoring services will be offered through the 21st Century Grant for grades 9-12. Contact Ms. Cathy Edmonds (367-6076) for more information about this program option

If you have further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the High School Principal at 250 University Drive, Monticello, AR; please call to set an appointment, (870-367-6076).

Sincerely,

Frank Ferguson, Principal
Drew Central High School