



## PULASKI COUNTY SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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925 East Dixon Road/P.O. Box 8601  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72216  
(501) 490-2000

February 28, 2008

Dear Parent:

Federal law requires that we share the results of the District's progress in meeting the NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND (NCLB) Annual Yearly Progress objectives. Pulaski County Special School District (PCSSD) has been designated by the Arkansas Department of Education as a District Identified for Improvement. This designation does not indicate a failing district, but provides a focus on areas for district improvement by administrators, principals, teachers, parents, and students. Identified districts then become eligible for additional support from the state as they work to improve teaching and learning, attendance, graduation, or participation in testing.

PCSSD is identified because of the following student subpopulations:

- Grades 3-11: 1) Students with Disabilities Math and Literacy
- Grades 9-12: 1) African American Math and Literacy  
2) Economically Disadvantaged Math and Literacy

The NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT of 2001 requires a district identified for improvement to inform parents of how they may participate in upgrading the quality of education within the district. To partner with PCSSD to improve the quality of education, we welcome your input through participation in committees, Parent/Teacher/Student organizations, parent conferences, and the strategic planning process. To become a part the strategic planning process, please join us for your zone's Town Hall Meeting:

Zone 4	March 4	Sylvan Hills High School	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Zone 2	March 10	Robinson Middle School	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Zone 6	March 13	Jacksonville High School	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Zone 7	March 17	Harris Elementary School	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Zone 5	March 18	North Pulaski High School	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Zone 3	April 3	Maumelle Middle School	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Zone 1	April 7	Mills Univ. Studies High School	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

If you would like more information about the district's progress in meeting the NCLB annual objectives, please feel free to contact Dr. Robert L. Clowers, Director of Accountability, or visit the district's web site at [www.pcssid.org](http://www.pcssid.org).

Sincerely,

James R. Sharpe  
Superintendent

## **DISTRICT ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE TEST SCORES IN GENERAL AND THE TEST SCORES OF SUBPOPULATIONS SPECIFICALLY**

In response to the subpopulations of Students with Disabilities (3-12), African American (9-12), and Socio Economic (9-12) subpopulations deficiencies as identified on the Benchmark Exams, Learning Services has put the following initiatives in place:

1. Data Analysis of the subpopulations' Benchmark results with individual school improvement plans for each campus
2. Embedded professional development through Professional Learning Communities
3. Leadership Teams
4. Intervention Coaches/Specialists that focus on math and literacy at 35 schools
5. Specific math professional development targeting best practices with follow up coaching that supports implementation
6. Specific literacy professional development with research based strategies and follow up coaching to support implementation
7. New Curriculum- Cognitively Guided Instruction, JBHM Math, Modern Red Schoolhouse Literacy, TAG Writing
8. Additional technology that supports teaching and learning
9. Multicultural opportunities embedded in curriculum and lesson planning
10. Formative Assessment that provides timely feedback for teachers to use in planning instruction and assisting individual students
11. Administrative training and support in using Classroom Walk Through observation method in order to support teaching and learning
12. Increased communication with parents through the use of Grade Quick/Ed Line
13. Family Nights
14. Available Supplemental Services for students of any elementary school in School Improvement
15. Before and after school programs for secondary non proficient students
16. Summer Transition Camps for identified incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders and incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders

**Please contact Learning Services at 490-6280 if you have questions.**