



LACKAWANNA MIDDLE SCHOOL

550 Martin Road
Lackawanna, New York 14218
827-6704; fax 827-6784

Dear LMS Families:

The New York State Department of Education (NYSED) has taken a number of actions to integrate the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) Title I, Title III and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) accountability systems.

Under NYSED's Differentiated Accountability (DA) system, each public and charter school that is not in Good Standing in 2011-12 will be designated to an accountability phase – Improvement, Corrective Action, or Restructuring – based on its history of making adequate yearly progress (AYP) and its 2010-11 AYP status for each accountability measure.

Districts with newly identified Improvement schools, Corrective action schools and/or Restructuring schools will be required to conduct the following prescribed interventions at each accountability phase: a School Quality Review (SQR) for newly identified Improvement schools; an External School Curriculum Audit (ESCA) for newly identified Corrective Action schools; and a Joint Intervention Team (JIT) Review for newly identified Restructuring (year 1) and Advanced schools.

In order for a school to remain in “good standing”, all indicators must be passed. This is referred to as making “Annual Yearly Progress” (AYP) as dictated by NCLB. New York State must follow the rules of NCLB and subsequently AYP. To make AYP, every accountability group must make AYP. For a group to make AYP, it must meet the participation *and* the performance criteria. Achieving this status grows increasingly difficult as the targets for achievement increase each year and the performance of subgroups of students, such as those with disabilities, is held to the same standards as that of all students.

Currently Lackawanna Middle School has been classified as a “*School in Need of Improvement (Year 1)*” in the “*Comprehensive Review*” category for our scores on our State Assessments in the following categories over the past two years:

- ***Math- All students***
- ***ELA- African American subgroup***
- ***ELA- Economically disadvantaged subgroup***

To ensure that LMS improves, a plan has been established to include, but not limited to; additional professional development including the new Common Core Teaching Standards, Academic Intervention Services (AIS), collaborative planning and after-school Supplemental Education Services (SES).

As parents of children at LMS, you can help in this process. Simply taking 15-20 minutes per day to talk about your child's day at school, as well as helping create educational long-term goals can make a world of difference with your child.

Please note that: Supplemental Education Services (SES) will be provided for students through the Title I Grant. Please look at the information enclosed in the envelope for details. Also, check the district website for information (www.lackawannaschools.org).

Thank you for your continued support,

Bruce Axelson
Principal

Mr. Bruce Axelson
Principal



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