

Booker T. Washington High School Health Science and Nutrition

45 White House Drive, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30314
404-802-4667

July 26, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter is to inform you of specific choices you may have under the federal *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB). The NCLB legislation requires all schools to meet *Adequate Yearly Progress* (AYP) for all categories of students in reading, mathematics and science. Schools failing to meet AYP standards for 2 or more years are designated as in need of improvement, which allows the parents of students attending these schools choices regarding the education of their children.

The 2010-2011 AYP determinations for Atlanta Public Schools and its individual schools will not be released by the Georgia Department of Education until a later date. However, our school is required to offer choice based upon the 2009-2010 AYP determinations.

Your child's options for the 2011-2012 school years are to:

1. Remain at school name and, if eligible, receive free tutoring services; or
2. Enroll in another designated school of choice;

It is important for you to know that APS provides additional educational resources for schools in need of improvement under the NCLB act, including the assignment of master teachers in the specific academic areas needing additional support based on test results, along with specialized curriculum and instructional programs. Additionally, parents of students attending schools that do not make AYP for 2 or more consecutive years have the option of transferring their children to other schools within the district. Transportation to these transfer schools will continue for as long as your original school remains on the "needs improvement" list. When your original school's performance improves to the point where it is no longer listed as a "needs improvement" school, transportation to the transfer school will no longer be provided.

Another option that may be available for you and your child is *Supplemental Educational Services* (SES) or free tutoring, which is available at your local school to assist students in improving their performance. Information about the specific programs available under SES will be mailed to you. If you choose to transfer your child to another school, you will not be eligible for SES. More information regarding Supplemental Educational Services or free tutoring will be sent to parents of eligible students by U.S. mail. Additional information is available to parents about SES through SES Providers Fairs and community flyers. You may also visit the Atlanta Public Schools website (www.atlantapublicschools.us) for SES information. If you have any questions about the Supplemental Educational Services or free tutoring, please contact Ms. Mary Shepherd at (404) 802-2735 or mshepherd@atlanta.k12.ga.us. A list of the approved service providers included for your review.

If you wish for your child to remain enrolled in his/her current school, you don't need to take any action. Your child will be provided additional academic support, and you can sign up for SES tutoring for your child as well.

If you wish to transfer your child to another eligible school, you may select from the following options for doing so. The following schools are eligible to receive transfers as defined by the criteria set in the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*.

NCLB CHOICE SCHOOLS
CORETTA SCOTT KING YWLA HS 9 th & 10 th grades only-single gender academy
BEST ACADEMY HS 9 th & 10 th grades only – single gender academy
SOUTH ATLANTA HEALTH SCIENCES & RESEARCH
TECH HIGH CHARTER SCHOOL
CARVER SCHOOL OF THE ARTS 9 th grade only
CARVER EARLY COLLEGE <i>Students must have a minimum score of at least 820 on the Mathematics and Reading areas of the CRCT. Applying 10th, 11th & 12th grade students must be transferring from an early college program</i>

The 2010-2011 AYP Report that determined the 2011-2012 AYP status for each school (including all choice schools) may be accessed via the web at <http://www.gadoe.org/ayp2011>.

A NCLB PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATION is enclosed with this letter. The deadline for submitting the NCLB PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATION is August 12, 2012. Your application may be mailed to the APS Department of Student Relations, 130 Trinity Avenue – 2nd Floor Atlanta, Georgia 30303, no later than/postmarked by August 12, 2011. You can also hand deliver your completed application to the APS Department of Student Relations between the hours of 9:00a.m. - 4:00p.m.

If you request a transfer, your child will remain enrolled in your zone school until you receive an official notice from the district regarding your transfer request. The district will respond to your request with a written notice regarding your child's specific school assignment and transportation availability.

Elementary and middle school students will be provided transportation on an APS school bus. For those elementary and middle school students riding the bus, school bus stops will be developed based upon your current address and a bus schedule will be available at your transfer school. High school students who need transportation will receive MARTA passes. Each transfer school will designate a person to provide your child with a MARTA pass on a weekly basis. Please note that the average ride time for students receiving a NCLB School Choice transfer is 1.5 hours. Pick up/drop off times will be earlier/later than normal bus routes to allow your student to arrive on time. This means that your child's bus pick up time may be as early as 6:30am and the drop off time may be as late as 6:00pm. Program location and traffic congestion severely impact the speed a bus can travel therefore, the longer the route, the longer the transit time.

At Washington Health Science and Nutrition we are committed to continually seeking to improve instruction for our students. We hope that as parents, you will become involved in our school improvement initiatives as we continue to monitor student achievement and set high expectations. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please give me a call at 404-802-4667 or you may contact the Department of Student Relations at (404) 802-2233 if you need assistance in completing the necessary forms or have any questions about the Public School Choice process.

Sincerely,

Samuel P. Scavella, Ph.D.
Principal