



July 23, 2015

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 requires that parents or guardians who have children attending a Title I school be notified of how well their school is preparing its students for college and/or a career, as well as the school's designation under Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver.

Under the 2015 renewal of Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver, certain Title I schools continue to be designated as Reward, Priority or Focus Schools. The Waiver allows the use of the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) as the comprehensive report card for all schools in Georgia, providing a score between 0-100 for each school. The CCRPI measures how well the school is doing in preparing its students to be successful in college and/or a career.

J. E. Brown Middle School's CCRPI score for 2013/2014 was 65.3. Detailed information regarding The CCRPI score can be found on the Georgia Department of Education's website: ccrpi.gadoe.org. or www.gadoe.org/CCRPI.

Despite the progress made by our students, J. E. Brown has been designated as a Title I Focus School under Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver for the **2015/2016** school year. **This distinction is based on the achievement gap between subgroups evidenced by data from 2011-2014.**

As a Focus School, we will work together with parents/guardians, our community, and the Atlanta Public School district to develop a school plan that delivers the necessary support to address the learning needs of our students and increase their academic success. To address the achievement gap, J. E. Brown's instructional coaches are working with teachers to identify student's individual needs and implemented research based instructional strategies. These strategies will include computer assisted programs to aide in increasing student achievement, tutorial programs are in place, and the Algebra Project has been implemented to support mathematic. Additionally, various other afterschool programs are in place to assist. Teachers, along with appropriate support staff, participate in continuous Professional Development that addresses root causes based on identified needs and to learn best practices with an emphasis on students' academic achievement.

An important part of J. E. Brown's success is parent participation and support in developing activities to improve student achievement. We hope that you will become involved in our school improvement initiatives as we continue to monitor student achievement and set high expectations. If you are interested in participating in the development of our school improvement plans, being a part of our family engagement team or have questions about how you can better help your child in school, please contact Tiauna Crooms, Principal at 404-802-6806 or tcrooms@atlanta.k12.ga.us.

Thank you for all that you do to support your child's education and success.

Sincerely,

Tiauna Crooms
Principal