
CRAWFORD W. LONG MIDDLE SCHOOL

3200 Latona Dr., SE
Atlanta, Georgia 30354
404-802-4800

November 18, 2011

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (NCLB) was signed into law to improve educational opportunities for all children. This legislation supports the school district's efforts to provide a strong standards-based educational program for students, along with accountability for student achievement. The purpose of this letter is to share important parent information related to the law and your option for public school choice. The NCLB legislation requires all schools to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in the academic areas of reading, mathematics, and science. The state has established annual student achievement targets or goals in order to measure a school's progress. A school that does not make AYP in the priority subject areas for two or more years is designated as a school in need of improvement under the NCLB legislation.

Long Middle School has been identified as a Needs Improvement Year 1 (Ni-1) school because we did not meet the AYP criteria for mathematics during the school year 2010-2011. The state required that our school's AYP score in mathematics be 75.7% Proficient/Advanced. Our school's AYP score in mathematics was 60.5% Proficient/Advanced. Although our overall student pass rate was 94% we did not make the Proficient/Advanced measurement.

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

1. Remain at *Long Middle School*; or
2. Enroll in another designated school of choice.

The school district will devote additional time and resources to improve student achievement at *Long Middle School*. We want you to understand the proactive steps we are taking to improve student performance at our school. We are implementing the Move-It-Math Design Reform that focuses on accountability, high expectations, meeting standards, and a variety of assessments. The focus of assessments will be in the areas of mathematics and literacy. In an effort to enhance student achievement and academic excellence, we will provide strategic intervention and supplemental service which will include, but not limited to, math remediation and after school tutorial programs. We encourage you to allow your child to remain enrolled at *Long Middle School* as we work collaboratively to achieve and meet AYP this year.

Parents of students attending a school that has not met AYP for two or more consecutive years have the opportunity to request a transfer to another school within the district that is not in need of improvement. If you choose the transfer option, the school district will provide transportation until the current school is no longer designated as an NI school. Federal law requires us to offer all students enrolled in the school the opportunity to transfer, and in honoring these requests, give priority to the lowest-achieving students from low-income families as determined by the school district.

In order for our students to be successful, we must develop a partnership with you and work as a team. As parents, there are some things that you can do to strengthen the academic achievement of your child.

- Assist us by becoming more involved in addressing the school's academic deficiencies by providing input on the school improvement plan.
- Hold high expectations for your child.
- Support the school in its efforts to maintain proper discipline.
- Make sure that your child attends school daily, arrives on time and has appropriate supplies.
- Communicate regularly with your child's teacher.
- Attend parent meetings.
- Support your child in doing homework.

The following middle schools also made AYP and are eligible to receive transfers pursuant to the criteria set by No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 – Brown MS, Bunche MS, Inman MS, King MS, Sutton MS and Young MS. Based upon geographic location, current school capacity, transportation patterns, and continuity of instructional programs, the district has provided the following choice schools for the 2011-2012 school year.

The choice schools are:

Choice Middle Schools	Students Meeting/Exceeding Reading/Lang Arts Standard	Students Meeting/Exceeding Mathematics Standard
BUNCHE MIDDLE SCHOOL	89.3%	77.4%
YOUNG MIDDLE SCHOOL	90.1%	75.4%

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>.

As a result of the school's academic status, you are eligible to transfer your child to another school in the district that has not been designated as Needs Improvement. This transfer option is known as Public School Choice. The Atlanta Public Schools must provide or pay for transportation for students to transfer to another school, although if there are not enough funds to transport all students who request transportation, we will give priority to the lowest achieving low-income students who request transportation.

If you want your child to remain at Long Middle School, no action is necessary. However, parents/guardians who wish to apply for a transfer for the 2011-2012 school year may do so and have several ways to communicate their choice of school. Please select the option from those listed below that is most convenient to you.

You can complete the NCLB PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATION by visiting the Atlanta Public Schools Department of Student Relations located at 130 Trinity Avenue – 2nd Floor Atlanta, Georgia 30303, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. The deadline for completing the application is December 14, 2011.

In the alternative, you may complete the enclosed NCLB PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATION and submit by US Mail no later than/postmarked by December 14, 2011 to Atlanta Public Schools Department of Student Relations by U.S. mail at 130 Trinity Avenue – 2nd Floor Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

You may also complete the enclosed NCLB PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATION and drop it off at the Atlanta Public Schools Department of Student Relations located at 130 Trinity Avenue – 2nd Floor Atlanta, Georgia 30303 no later than December 14, 2011.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS: Parents and guardians must provide photo identification and current proof of residence in the form of a Georgia Power bill current within 30 days and current mortgage statement/lease with the NCLB PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATION.

If you request a transfer, your child should remain enrolled in our school until you receive official notice from the school district regarding your transfer request. The district will respond to your request with a written notice regarding your child's 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.

At Long Middle School 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 404-802-4800 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,

Lisa L. Hill
Principal