

LARYN NELSON
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS
RON GARLINGTON – 6th grade
STEPHANIE BAILEY – 7th grade
SUSAN BUCKSON GREENE – 8th grade



ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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MERIA CARSTARPHEN, SUPERINTENDENT

August 29, 2014

Dear Jean Childs Young Families:

As a Title I school, we are informing you of information from the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE). All Title I schools will implement specific programs and interventions based upon their designated status as a Reward, Priority, Focus, or Alert School. In addition, the GaDOE Elementary Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver outlines Georgia's new Single Statewide Accountability System, the College and Career Readiness Performance Index (CCRPI). The CCRPI will serve as a comprehensive report card for all schools in Georgia. The state system will give parents, students, teachers and families a more complete and comprehensive picture of where a school or district is or is not meeting performance expectations. Also, the Georgia ESEA Flexibility Waiver eliminated Supplemental Educational Services (SES) and Public School Choice (Choice). As a result, these identified schools will have the capacity to serve more students in need of additional academic support.

Although the Georgia ESEA Flexibility Waiver eliminated Supplemental Educational Services (SES) and Public School Choice (Choice), the Georgia ESEA Flexibility Waiver provides greater flexibility in designing a Flexible Learning Program (FLP) tailored to the needs of the schools designated as Priority, Focus, or Alert status if they choose to provide this program. As a result, these identified schools will have the capacity to serve more students in need of additional academic support.

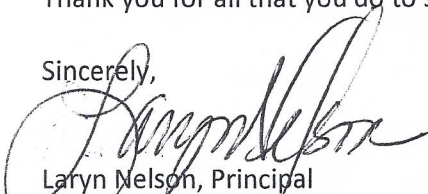
Jean Childs Young Middle School has been designated as an **Alert School** for the 2014-2015 school year. A school that is designated as an Alert School is a Title I or Non-Title I school in the state based on the lowest achievement of "all students" group in terms of proficiency on the statewide assessments and has demonstrated a lack of progress on those assessments over three years in the "all students" group.

At **Jean Childs Young Middle School**, we take pride in the educational opportunities we are able to provide for our children. Our teachers and staff members are dedicated to meet the needs of all students to ensure academic success. We have evidence that students are learning and making good progress, and we consider this an important indicator of success.

Another important part of our success is **parent participation and support** in developing activities to improve student achievement. We hope 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 developing our school improvement initiatives so we can continue to excel, contact Linda Sheffield, **our Parent Liaison**, at 404 802 – 5934 or lgsheffield@atlanta.k12.ga.us.

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

Sincerely,



Laryn Nelson, Principal
Principal

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August 29, 2014

Dear Jean Childs Young Families,

On February 9, 2012, the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) received waivers from ten requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, as amended by No Child Left Behind (NCLB) of 2001. ESEA/NCLB requires that parents or guardians who have children attending a Title I school be notified of the school's academic achievement as well as a school's designation under Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver. This letter is intended to provide additional information concerning the options available to your child under Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver, and to help you understand what the waiver will mean for you and your child.

Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, the GaDOE transitioned from Needs Improvement (NI) school designations based on Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) reports to Reward, Priority, Focus, and Alert School designations based on ESEA Flexibility Waiver formulas. Now, Title I schools will implement specific programs and interventions based on Reward, Priority, Focus, and Alert Schools status. In addition, the GaDOE ESEA Flexibility Waiver outlines Georgia's new Single Statewide Accountability System, the College and Career Readiness Performance Index (CCRPI). The CCRPI will serve as a comprehensive report card for all schools in Georgia. The state system will give parents, students, teachers, and families a more complete and comprehensive picture of where a school or district is or is not meeting performance expectations.

Although the Georgia ESEA Flexibility Waiver eliminated Supplemental Educational Services (SES) and Public School Choice (Choice), the Georgia ESEA Flexibility Waiver provides greater flexibility in designing a Flexible Learning Program (FLP) tailored to the needs of the schools designated as Priority, Focus, or Alert status if they choose to provide this program. As a result, these identified schools will have the capacity to serve more students in need of additional academic support.

Despite the progress made by our students, *Jean Childs Young Middle School* has been designated as a Title I Alert School under Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver for the **2014-2015** school year. This designation was based on test data for the past three school years.

Alert Schools are identified each year and consist of Title I and Non-Title I schools based on nine ESEA/NCLB subgroups. They fall into one of the three following categories using ESEA disaggregated subgroups or subject performance on both statewide assessments and graduation rate: *Graduation Alert*, *Subgroup Alert* or *Subject Alert*.

Jean Childs Young is on Alert School status for lack of progress for the past three year for all students on the statewide assessments.

As a Title I Alert School, we will work collaboratively with parents/guardians, our community, and our school district office to develop a school turnaround plan which will implement interventions to respond to the specific needs of the students in our school. We are working diligently to document marked improvement on student progress and will employ a variety of strategies toward this end, such as Differentiated Instruction, Computer Adaptive Testing, Grade Cam, Computer-based remediation and enrichment (i.e. Study Island, Read 180 eScience 3000), Teacher-led Tutorials, Extended Enrichment Opportunities (i.e. Cram Jams, Saturday Success Academy, All-Stars), and Remedial Enrichment Programs in Math and Reading, to name several. Our Schoolwide Plan contains a more complete listing of strategies and is available in the Parent Center for review.

We are available to discuss questions or concerns that you might have regarding our Alert School designation.

Q & A ~~~~~ Title 1

The questions below are from parents who attended the Annual Title 1 meeting on August 25, 2014.

Will parents be notified if the students need tutoring? Teachers are expected to notify parents if students begin to show a need for additional support.

If students need tutoring, when and where will it be held? Each teacher has scheduled tutorials. Please contact your child's teacher for this information.

When are PTA meetings? The PTA executive board is in the process of planning a meeting to discuss meeting dates and times.

When can we sign up for PTA? Once the PTA executive board meets to determine dates, parents will be notified of membership and the process.

Will we have Computers for Youth again? Based on the findings, this is an expensive program. According to last year's Title 1 budget, it costs JCYMS \$58,000 to fund this program.

Why are we using outdated books and ordering more outdated books? This matter is currently being addressed at the district level....stay tuned.

Will there be a comprehensive list of websites that will assist parents and students with school assignments? While we are formulating a comprehensive list of websites, here are a few websites that can assist you in the meantime:

www.seekoutlearning.blogspot.com

www.tutor.com

www.aplusmath.com

What are the email addresses for the teachers? This list will be provided in the first edition of the JCYMS school newsletter.

When does the afterschool program start? All-Stars will begin on September 8, 2014. More information forthcoming.



Title I

Parental Involvement Policy

What is a parental involvement policy?

A parental involvement policy is a description of how the Local Education Agency (LEA) or the school will support the important role of parents in the education of their children.

What should be included in the district's parental involvement policy?

The district policy should describe the district-wide plan for involving parents in their children's education and in the Title I program. It should describe how all schools and parents will work together to help Title I students achieve the *standards of learning*. The district's policy must include the following requirements:

- How parents will be involved in determining what the school needs to do to help their children achieve the standards.
- How parents will be involved in developing the Title I plan at their school.
- How the district will help its Title I schools involve parents.
- How the district will coordinate the parental involvement activities of Title I and other programs such as Even Start and Head Start.
- An outline of the district's plan for reviewing and evaluating its policy each year.

What should be included in the school's parental involvement policy?

The school's written policy must describe the school's plan to:

- Convene an annual meeting to inform parents of Title I, Part A guidelines.
- Offer a flexible number of meetings.
- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review and improvement of Title I, Part A programs.
- Provide parents timely information, school performance profiles, individual student assessment results, a description and explanation of the curriculum.
- Offer opportunities for regular meetings, timely responses to parent suggestions and compacts.

How is the parental involvement policy developed?

Each district and school is required to involve ALL parents in the process. However, the developmental and implementation processes will vary depending on the district and school.

How will the parental involvement policy be put into practice?

Schools are allowed to use Title I money to support parental involvement. For example, Title I funds can be used to provide childcare or transportation for parents to attend school functions. Funds can also be used to provide workshops that inform parents about what their children are learning, or to buy materials that parents can use to help their children with schoolwork.