

ARLINGTON

Public Schools

Educating all students, preparing and inspiring them to achieve their full potential.

Implications for Students in Title I Schools

August 12, 2014

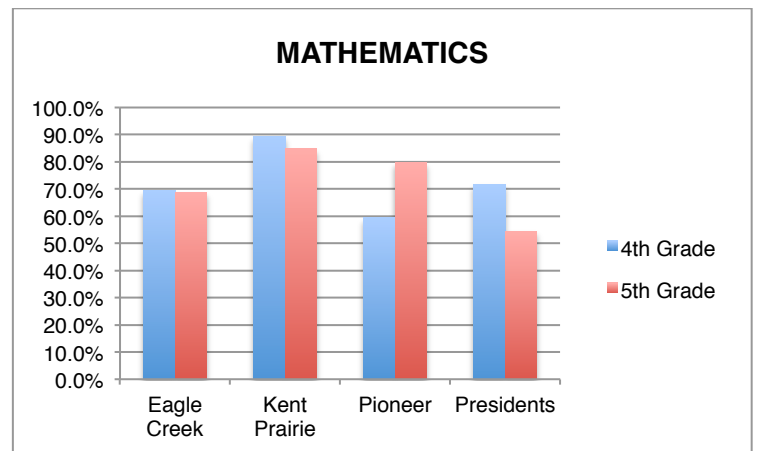
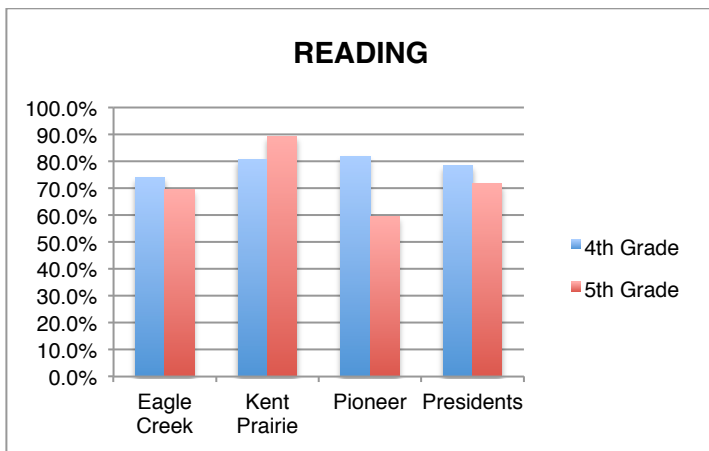
To the Parents/Guardians of Students at Eagle Creek Elementary:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that our school has been identified as a school in Step 2 of School Improvement under the Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001.

What is School Improvement Steps 2, 3, and 4?

NCLB requires the state and district to review annually the academic progress of federally funded Title I, Part A schools and to identify schools in need of improvement. Schools are identified as in need of improvement after two consecutive years of not making adequate yearly progress (AYP). Washington determines AYP by considering the following three measures:

- The percentage of students scoring at the “proficient” or “advanced” level on the Washington Standards Tests for English Language Arts-Reading and Mathematics.
- The percentage of students participating in those tests.
- The graduation rate for high schools/unexcused absence rate for elementary and middle schools.



Why is our school identified as a School in Improvement Step 2?

The reason our school continues in school improvement is because we did not achieve AYP in 2013-14. The AYP area(s) that caused the identification are English Language Arts-Reading and Mathematics.

Public School Choice: What right does a parent have to request a transfer to a school that is not in a step of improvement?

NCLB requires schools in Step 2-5 of improvement to provide Public School Choice, which would allow you to move your child to a school that is not identified by NCLB as a school in improvement. Although Kent Prairie Elementary did not meet AYP, they are a school of choice in 2014-15. Should Kent Prairie not make AYP again next year, they will no longer be available as a school of choice. Statewide, only a very small number of schools met the 100 percent threshold.

Supplemental Educational Services (SES): How does a parent obtain a provider for their child(ren)?

Students are eligible for free Supplemental Education Services (SES) if the student:

- Attends a Title I, Part A school identified in Step 2, 3, or 4 whose parents have not selected a public school choice option, *and*
- Is eligible for free or reduced lunch, *and*
- Ranks as lowest achieving

These services are classes or tutoring which occur outside the regular school day with educational providers approved by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). If the number of eligible students who apply for the SES program exceeds the financial resources available, the lowest achieving students from low-income families will receive SES first.

Benefits to your child(ren) receiving free tutoring may include:

- He/she receives specific help in English Language Arts-Reading, Mathematics, and/or Science.
- The tutoring is provided beyond the regular school day.
- The tutoring is delivered in a one-to-one setting or in small groups.
- A student learning plan will address his/her specific academic needs.
- You, as the parent/guardian, will be consulted in developing your child's learning plan.

If you are interested in SES, please go to the OSPI website: <http://www.k12.wa.us/Title/SES> to find the list of providers willing to serve the district. The list identifies the subject area(s) and any special groups of students a provider is approved to serve. This information can also be found on our website at www.asd.wednet.edu. Please, complete and return the attached SES application form to the district by November 25. If you need assistance in making a selection of an SES provider(s) for your child(ren), please contact Terri Bookey at 360.618.6210.

What will the school do to address the problem of low achievement?

We are working closely with the district staff to revise our school improvement plan to include:

- Strategies, policies, and practices that utilize scientifically based research and have the greatest likelihood of ensuring that all groups of students will meet the state's achievement targets.
- High quality professional development for school staff that will lead to removing the school from school improvement status.
- Strategies to promote effective parental and community involvement in the school.

What are the district and state doing to support schools in Step 2-3-4 (School Improvement)?

Our district is working closely with the school to improve curriculum, instruction, and student performance. The district provides information, special help, and access to resources for schools identified in Step 2, 3, or 4 of improvement. Schools in improvement will receive district technical assistance in:

- Analyzing various data reports for revising the school plan
- Strengthening core academic instruction
- Collaborating with parents to increase student academic achievement

How can parents become involved?

Research shows that strong parental involvement leads to student success at school. Parents interested in partnering with the school are encouraged to contact the school for additional information regarding:

- Parental involvement policies
- School-parent compact
- Ongoing parent/community meetings
- Advisory committee/school site council meetings
- Parent volunteer opportunities
- Talk with district staff about the District Improvement Plan and the program changes that must be made to help students meet the state standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics.

We will keep you updated and informed about opportunities to discuss plans for our school. If you have questions, need additional information on how you can get involved in our school improvement efforts, or would like to discuss the school's instructional program and school improvement status, please feel free to call me and/or visit the school.

Sincerely,

Ms. Kari Henderson-Burke
Principal

ARLINGTON

Public Schools

PLEASE RETURN BY: AUGUST 26, 2014

For Eagle Creek families requesting public school choice transfer

Reminder: If you prefer to remain at Eagle Creek, you DO NOT need to complete this form.

Families choosing to move from Eagle Creek to Kent Prairie because of Eagle Creek's Adequate Yearly Progress results will be considered permanent students, and will be permitted to remain in this school through grade 5. However, if the district is not required to offer School Choice in the future, you will be required to provide transportation.

Please note:

- Parents may choose to re-enroll at Eagle Creek Elementary at any time.
- When Eagle Creek Elementary test scores improve to a level that meets Adequate Yearly Progress, the district will notify families that Eagle Creek has met the requirements of the No Child Left Behind act.
- Students who qualify for free or reduced price meals entering first through fifth grades are eligible to apply.
- Up to 75 students will be selected.
- The lowest achieving students will be selected, based on spring Developmental Reading Assessment scores (grades 1, 2, and 3) or MSP scores in reading and math (grades 4 and 5).
- Parents will be notified by Aug. 28, 2014 regarding their child's placement.

Important information about special education programs:

If your student is receiving special education services at Eagle Creek, those services may not be available at Kent Prairie. If that is the case, the district will notify you about the status of special education services.

To apply:

- Return this form to the office at Eagle Creek Elementary; OR
- Return it to the Teaching & Learning, Arlington Public Schools, 315 N. French Ave., Arlington WA 98223; OR
- Email it to mwelch@asd.wednet.edu

Student's Last Name

Student's First Name

Student's Middle Initial

Grade entering in 2014-15 school year (CIRCLE ONE): 1 2 3 4 5

Address

City

Zip

Home Phone Number

Work Phone Number

Cell Phone Number

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

Date

Public School Choice

Schools that receive federal Title I funding and have failed to make AYP for two consecutive years are required to notify their families of the option to attend another school in our district that has met AYP. School districts must transport students to the alternate school free of charge. If you choose to transfer to another school, your transfer will be honored through fifth grade. However, if the school you are leaving makes AYP and no longer is required to offer Public School Choice, or if the choice school does not make AYP, or if the federal law changes again, transportation will no longer be provided to the choice school. You will always be welcome at your home school and your child may return at any time.

EAGLE CREEK ELEMENTARY
Parent/Guardian Request for Supplemental Services

Please complete the form below and return the entire form by November 25 to the school if you want an outside provider to tutor your child. Please use a separate form for each child.

Name of Student _____ Date _____

Name of Parent/Guardian _____

Birth date: _____ Grade _____

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child is enrolled at Eagle Creek Elementary and is eligible to receive Supplemental Educational Services as defined in the preceding letter. Please complete the section below for each child and return the entire form to:

Arlington Public Schools

Attention: Terri Bookey, Director of Early Learning & Categorical Programs

315 N. French Ave.

Arlington, WA 98223

Attendance is very important to the success of this program. Please ensure your child participates at all times unless there is an illness or emergency. This is an optional program and lack of proper attendance can jeopardize participation.

Parent/Guardian:

I understand that my child is eligible to receive Supplemental Educational Services for the 2014-2015 school year.

___ I have contacted and selected the following provider from the state approved list:

___ I wish to begin services on _____

___ I will require assistance from the school to help make a choice. Please contact me at the phone number below.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Office Use Only

Student STI # _____

Date Received _____