

August 15, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I am writing to inform you of our progress in meeting the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) requirements of the federal *No Child Left Behind Act*. As all of you should be aware, the Londonderry School District, with its highly qualified teaching staff (HQT), as a whole, has done very well with regard to the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP), the basis for AYP. For the 2010-2011 school year, the schools of the Londonderry School District met all Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) requirements, except for students with educational disabilities, and in some schools, economically disadvantaged students. For detailed information, please see individual school information below.

In reading, our whole school index was 92.5 (based on 100) across all schools and has been consistently at 90 or higher the last six years. In mathematics, our whole school index averaged 87 for all elementary and middle school levels, and has consistently averaged over 84 during the last six years. At our high school, our mathematics index score was 73.2.

Our students who are in the economically disadvantaged category scored at 87.8 across all schools in reading. This represents a growth of 2.4 index points over last year across the District. In mathematics, economically disadvantaged students averaged 83.8 at all elementary schools and 76.1 at the middle school. These math index scores represent an increase of 4.3 points at the elementary level and 2.9 points at the middle school level for the 2011 testing period. Five out of the last six years, all elementary schools averaged 79 or higher while the middle school has been 70 or higher all five years. At Londonderry High School, there has been a 16.9 index gain in math, since 2008, from an index score of 37.3 in 2008 to 54.2 in 2011.

The federal *No Child Left Behind Act* requires students with disabilities to meet the same target indices as their non-disabled peers. Students in this category averaged 72.9 or higher across all levels in reading for 2011. In mathematics, students at all elementary schools averaged 65.1, up 2.1 index points from a year ago. Middle school index results in math declined to 54.1 from 57.8 while LHS results held steady at 39.7. Despite gains in most areas, scores both in reading and mathematics need to show a minimum 10% growth for two consecutive years. If not, the district and its schools become designated as a "district in need of improvement" (DINI) and as "schools in need of improvement" (SINI). With these designations, the state requires the district and its schools to submit improvement plans. These plans are available at the school district website (www.londonderry.org) or may be obtained at the school district office.

To address these areas of concern, the Londonderry School District has put together a team of educators, parents and community leaders to assist us with the development and implementation of an improvement plan. As a parent, you are also a critical partner in school improvement. All of us working together will ensure the development of a successful improvement plan and thus will continue to improve the quality of the education we provide for all of our students. If you are interested in helping in the improvement process, please let me know by calling your child's Principal or the District Office; you may also send me an email or visit the SAU office by August 31, 2011.

Londonderry continues to work closely with the New Hampshire Department of Education (DOE) to address areas where we can improve as a District. The DOE provides guidance, offers trainings and consults with our team as we move through the creation and approval process for our Improvement Plan.

To address these areas of concern, during the last few years, we have developed and implemented a tiered instructional approach for our reading and math students. We have also implemented new research-based reading and math programs for both regular education students and students with educational disabilities at grades K-8 and the high school. We have also worked to reduce the student teacher ratio and offer more direct instruction to our struggling students.

In closing, thank you for your continued support in "Giving Wings to Children's Dreams". If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Andrew F. Corey
Assistant Superintendent

2010-2011 AYP Status

Matthew Thornton School

Made AYP with exception of: Educational Disabilities – Reading and Math
Remains School in Need of Improvement (SINI) Year 2 Reading
Advances to SINI Year 3 Math

North School

Made AYP with exception of: Educational Disabilities – Reading
Advances to SINI Year 3 Reading
Math stays SINI Year 2

South School

Made AYP with exception of: Educational Disabilities – Reading and Math
Advances to SINI Year 3 Reading and Math

Londonderry Middle School

Missed AYP whole school math, Educational Disabilities – Math and Reading
Remains SINI Year 3 Reading
Advances to SINI Year 5 Math

Londonderry High School

Made AYP with exception of: Educational Disabilities – Reading and Math, Economic
Disadvantaged – Math
Advances to SINI Year 3 Math
New SINI Year 2 Reading