



Valencia Middle School

July 30, 2009

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian:

In January 2002, the *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB) was signed into law to improve educational opportunities for all children attending a Title I school. This federally funded program provides assistance to schools serving students who are at risk for academic failure. This legislation supports the school district's efforts to provide a strong standards-based educational program for students along with accountability for student achievement.

Valencia Middle School operates a Title I program. NCLB requires that all Title I schools make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in all indicators for two consecutive years. Parents of children attending Title I schools that have not made AYP are required to be notified of the school's AYP status. Parents of children attending Title I schools that have not made AYP have two options:

- Public School Choice with free transportation to a school not identified for improvement; or
- Free tutoring from an approved Supplemental Educational Service Provider.

The table below details the AYP determination for our school:

AYP Determination	Yes or No
Met 95% Percent Tested in Math?	Yes
Met 95% Percent Tested in Reading?	Yes
Met Annual Measurable Objectives in Math?	No
Met Annual Measurable Objectives in Reading?	Yes
Met 90% K-8 Attendance Rate?	Yes
Met 71 % High School Graduation Rate or Increased 1% from Previous Year?	NA

As a result of the above, pending any appeal and its approval, our school is currently identified to be in **Year 3 Corrective Action** of Title I School Improvement. The following chart provides a comparison of our school to other middle schools in the district and in the State as required by NCLB:

Grade	My School	My District	Arizona Schools	My School	My District	Arizona Schools
	% Proficient in Math	% Proficient in Math	% Proficient in Math	% Proficient in Reading	% Proficient in Reading	% Proficient in Reading
6	44%	54%	68.1%	53%	62%	70.2%
7	47%	64%	73.3%	56%	65%	72.7%
8	43%	54%	63.2%	49%	61%	69.3%

Due to our school's Title I School Improvement designation, your child will be eligible to attend a school that is NOT identified for Title I School Improvement and the district will pay for transportation. Please note the number of students eligible to transfer is limited by the amount of funds available to pay for transportation costs. If funds are not sufficient, lowest-achieving students from low-income families must be given priority.

Parents choosing to transfer their child have the following choice of middle schools: **Doolen, Gridley, Secrist, Townsend and Vail**. A list of information about these schools and how they compare to other schools in the district

was mailed to you on July 31, 2009. Contact Pam Fine at 225-6404 should you need assistance in selecting a school to transfer your child. Please complete the attached form by **Friday, September 4, 2009** to let us know which school you would like your child to attend.

In addition, your child may receive free tutoring from an approved state Supplemental Educational Service Provider (SES). This free tutoring will be an opportunity for your child to improve reading, math, or writing skills and are tailored to the particular academic needs of each student and are coordinated with your child's instructional program. You may obtain a list of the approved tutoring companies and a description of their tutoring services from the school office or the district website: www.tusd.k12.az.us/contents/depart/title1/presources.html. Please complete and return the attached tutoring form to your school to request free tutoring for your child by **Friday, September 4, 2009**. If you have questions regarding the SES tutoring services, or need assistance in selecting an approved tutoring provider, please contact the Valencia school office at 908-4500.

We have been working with the district and ADE to revise the Arizona School Improvement Plan for our school. In order to address the indicators of not making AYP, the district and ADE are assisting our school in:

- Providing comprehensive technical assistance in developing/revising the Arizona School Improvement Plan (i.e., leadership mentoring, high-quality ongoing professional development, facilities, adopting research-based interventions, logistics, and instructional time);
- Coordinating resources (i.e., instructional and non-instructional staff, state and federal funding);
- School Improvement Walk-Throughs;
- Technical Assistance in the implementation of Supplementary Educational Services (SES) – Tutoring Program.

The school is implementing the following strategies to address the indicator(s) of not making AYP:

- 6/7/8th grade math articulation based upon standards and outcomes;
- Staff development for differentiated Instruction in math;
- Site based common assessments and math support based upon assessment data.

We encourage you to become involved by participating in the development of the Arizona School Improvement Plan. Please contact me at 908-4500 if you are interested in being part of a committee or would like more information on our school. As a reminder, our Title I annual meeting will be held on Thursday, August 27th at 6:00 pm in the Valencia cafeteria, and our instructional staff will be available to answer questions.

Educationally yours,

John Bellisario
Principal

Shelly Duran
Title 1 Coordinator