



105 South Railroad Street
Philippi, WV 26416

F. Joseph Super, Ed.D.
Superintendent

COMMITTED TO LEARNING FOR ALL

August 12, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian,

West Virginia's public schools have been working hard to improve the performance of our students in reading, writing, and mathematics. On state tests, most students are scoring and are achieving mastery in these core subjects. Our schools have shown they can and will rise to high standards.

The federal law, No Child Left Behind, requires that schools that do not meet the state standards for two consecutive years are identified for school improvement for a two year period. An LEA must offer public school choice to all students in Title I schools identified for school improvement, corrective action or restructuring until the school is no longer identified for improvement. Belington Elementary has not met the state standards for adequate yearly progress in reading and math. As a result, you have the right to request that your child be transferred to Mount Vernon Elementary School or Kasson Elementary School **pending that space is available**. Transportation costs required to implement public school choice will be paid for by the LEA utilizing Title I as well as other allowable federal, state, local and private resources. If available funds are not sufficient to provide transportation to all students exercising the option to change schools, an LEA must give priority to the lowest achieving students from low income families.

Students with disabilities have special and specific needs. It may not be appropriate to offer students with disabilities the same school choices as offered to non-disabled students. In determining the choices available to disabled students, the county will match the abilities and needs of a student with disabilities with those schools that have the capability to provide appropriate services. Therefore if the parent(s) of a student with a disability expresses an interest in exercising the school choice option, education representatives will meet with the parent(s) to discuss their child's specific needs in relation to choice options. The parent must request the meeting by calling the Barbour County Central Office at 457 - 3030 and request a meeting with Jana Miller, Student Services Director.

Barbour County Schools will accommodate as many requests for transfers as possible. However, federal law requires that first priority must be given to the lowest income and lowest achieving students based on the results of the State assessment (WESTEST 2). If you transfer your child to another school, he/she may remain in that school until he or she has completed the highest grade in the school. Yet, Barbour County Schools will only assume the cost of the transportation until Belington Elementary School is no longer identified for school improvement. Your decision to transfer should be based on what you feel is best for your child.

The Belington Elementary School staff will continue to evaluate and revise the school's strategic plan to identify ways to strengthen instructional and support programs for students to continue the improvement process. Parent and community members are encouraged to work with the school in the development of the strategic plan.

If you choose to apply for the school choice option, please complete the attached form and return it to Belington Elementary Principal, Cindy Sigley, by 4:00 Friday, August 26, 2011. Questions concerning this issue should be directed to Jack Reger, Title I Director at 457 - 3030. We ask that you consider all factors before making your decision.

Respectfully,

Jack L. Reger
Director, Title I

Office of Title I and PK - 5 Curriculum and Instruction

Jack L. Reger, Director
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