

Sierra Sands Unified School District

August 12, 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians of Students in Sierra Sands Unified School District:

LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY IDENTIFIED FOR PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT, YEAR 3: CORRECTIVE ACTION

This is to inform you that Sierra Sands has been identified as a Program Improvement (PI) local educational agency (LEA) in Year 3, corrective action. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)/The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 requires the California Department of Education (CDE) to annually review the student academic performance in English-language arts (ELA) and mathematics of each LEA that receives funds under Title I, Part A. An LEA is identified as PI if it fails to meet yearly student performance goals, known as Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), for two consecutive years.

ESEA/NCLB also requires the California State Board of Education (SBE) to determine a corrective action for each PI Year 3 LEA. Corrective action is the collective name given to the steps an LEA must take that substantially and directly respond to instructional, managerial, and organizational problems in the LEA and that will lead to students achieving proficiency in the core academic subjects of ELA and mathematics.

In March 2014, the SBE determined that Sierra Sands Unified School District must take the following corrective action(s):

- Reserve ten percent of the Title I allocation to provide professional development for teachers and administrators.
- Access technical assistance to analyze the needs of the district and its schools.
- Review and revise the LEA Plan to document steps to fully implement the SBE-assigned corrective action.
- Demonstrate progress of LEA Plan implementation and monitoring by submitting a report describing the LEA's progress towards implementation of the strategies and actions in the LEA plan through annual electronic submission of local evidence to the CDE.

How can parents help the LEA improve?

Here are some suggestions to help you work with us to support improvements:

- Learn more about the ESEA/NCLB requirements and become aware of strategies to improve student academic achievement. Additional information and resources are available at:
 - The California Department of Education Title I, Part A Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sw/t1/titleparta.asp> and
 - Program Improvement Status Determinations Web Page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ay/tidetermine.asp>
 - The U.S. Department of Education's Web site at <http://www.ed.gov> (Outside Source) and <http://www.ed.gov/parents/landing.jhtml> (Outside Source)
- Talk with LEA staff about the LEA Plan and the revisions that must be made to help students meet the state standards in ELA and mathematics.
- Visit your child's school. You also may participate in voluntary activities to assist your school or LEA.
- If you are a parent of a student who attends a Title I PI school, ask about school choice options to transfer your child, with paid transportation, to a public school in your LEA that is not identified as a PI school.
- If you are a parent of a student who attends a Title I school that has been in PI for two years or more, ask about supplemental educational services, or free tutoring, that may be available for your child.

Please contact Michelle Savko at 760-499-1640 for further information about any of these requirements and to find out how you can become involved in our efforts to improve our district.

Sincerely,

Michelle Savko
Coordinator of Pupil Support Services and Special Projects
760-499-1640