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To the Parents/Guardians of students at Compass High School:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that our school has been identified as a school not meeting the state's Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) requirements as defined under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001. It is now in Step 2 of school improvement.

What is School Improvement Step 2?

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. These schools are identified as in improvement after six consecutive years of not making 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 Test 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 improvement is because it was in Step 1 of AYP in 2013-14 and did not make AYP in 2014-15. The AYP area(s) that caused the identification are:

- Graduation rate
- Reading
- Mathematics

The school's 2014-2015 AYP report may be obtained from the school or on the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) State Report Card Web page at <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx>.

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

All parents/guardians of students attending a school that has been identified in a step of improvement (i.e., Steps 1-4) have the right to request a transfer for their child(ren) to another school within the district (referred to as a "choice school") that has not been identified as a school in a step of improvement.

Notice of Non-Discrimination/Title IX

The Grandview School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, or disability. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular activities. An inquiry regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to Diann Zavala the school district's designated Title IX/RCW 28A.260 and the Section 504/ADA staff coordinator, at 509 882-8520. The address is 913 West 2nd Street, Grandview, WA 98930.

However, all elementary schools in the Grandview School District did not meet their AYP Goals as designated as needing improvement are in Step 2 of School Improvement. Grandview School District does not have an option to transfer your child to another higher performing school in the district.

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

Students from low-income families who attend a Title I, Part A school identified in Step 2 of improvement, whose parents did not select a public school choice option, are eligible for free Supplemental Educational Services (SES). 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. 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.

There are many benefits to your child(ren) receiving free tutoring.

- He/she receives specific help in reading and/or mathematics.
- The tutoring is provided beyond the regular school day, on weekends, during school vacation times or during the summer.
- The tutoring is delivered in a one-to-one setting or in small groups.

If you are interested in SES, please review the attached list of approved 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 Web site at gsd200.org. Please, complete and return the attached SES application form to the main school office by September 15, 2015.

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

We are working closely with the district staff to revise our school restructuring 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 Step 2 status.
- Strategies to promote effective parental involvement in the school.

We will continue to use assessment data to revise our school improvement plan to increase learning outcomes for all of our students. We will also continue to develop and implement research-based strategies, policies and practices; provide focused interventions to help students develop the skills they need; and use district and classroom assessments to monitor each student's progress.

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What are the district and state doing to support schools in Step 2 of School Improvement (Restructuring Implementation)?

Our district is working closely with the OSPI to improve curriculum, instruction, and student performance. For Title I, Part A schools that have been identified in Step 2 for the 2015-16 academic year, these schools must develop a restructuring plan with the assistance of the district. The implementation of the restructuring plan must occur in the 2016-17 academic year which will be monitored by the district. At this point, we don't know what this will look like. However, before changes are made, feedback will be sought from Grandview School District staff and parents.

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

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 Step 2 status, please feel free to call me and/or visit the school.

Sincerely,

Kim Casey
Contract Learning Center Principal

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