



Wareham Public Schools

Memorial Town Hall
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Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Wareham Middle School has been identified for improvement in English Language Arts and restructuring in Mathematics for the student aggregate and subgroups (according to preliminary data on the 2011 MCAS results) under the federal *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB). This designation alone does not indicate a failing school. It highlights areas where more work is needed by principals, teachers, and parents to ensure that all students are successful. Schools identified under NCLB become eligible for additional support from the school district and the state as they work together to improve teaching and learning, especially in English Language Arts and Mathematics.

We are doing many things to improve teaching and learning in the school, including:

1. Changed the master schedule to increase student time on learning in English Language Arts and Mathematics by 20 hours per year in each subject area.
2. Implementing Everyday Mathematics at grade 6 this year and Transitions Mathematics at grade 7. Everyday Math was instituted at the elementary schools last year with positive results. In addition, all curriculum materials associated with these programs were purchased. All grade 6 teachers have been trained in Everyday Math.
3. We are providing after school tutoring and homework help three (3) days per week for students needing support.
4. English Language Arts and Mathematics curriculums have been aligned with the National and State Common Core Standards during professional development curriculum work over the summer.
5. Appointed an Instructional Leader who as one of her responsibilities is to work with staff on instructional practices and formative assessments which will foster student learning.

Involving families as full partners in the education of their children is a cornerstone of NCLB. When families support learning, children are more successful in school. School success helps children become successful adults. We encourage you to become involved in helping us improve our school.

Some of the ways you can become involved are:

- Attend parent-teacher meetings, open houses, special events, and conferences;
- Serving as a volunteer in our school or district;
- Encourage other parents to become involved.

For more information on participating in the school improvement process, contact your school principal, Mr. Howard Gilmore at 508-291-3550.

NCLB School Choice is one option that is available to students in Title I schools when there is more than one middle school in the district but there is only middle school in our district. However, because the school receives federal Title I funds, Supplemental Educational Services are available to students of the Wareham Middle School. You will be receiving a letter during the first week of September about these tutoring services. Please contact Ms. Kathy Moore-Minkle, SES Coordinator at 508-291-3540, ext 18, for more information.

Sincerely,

Barry Rabinovitch, Ph.D
Superintendent of Schools