

September 27, 2013

Dear Prescott Parents,

Prescott Elementary was identified by the Nebraska Department of Education as being in Title I School Improvement under the rules of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. This classification means that the school has not made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Prescott Elementary has worked with the School District to develop a two-year plan for improvement.

In January of 2002, President Bush signed an education law called No Child Left Behind. The long-range goal of the No Child Left Behind Act is that every child should be proficient in core areas of study according to state and local standards. In Nebraska, state and local standards are measured by student performance on the Nebraska state assessment each spring in the area of reading (NeSA-R), writing (NeSA-W), and math (NeSA-M). Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is required by the U.S. Department of Education for all districts and schools that receive federal funds. AYP refers to a minimum percentage of students who must meet or exceed academic proficiency standards established by the State. These standards must be met by all students and for each subgroup in reading and math. The goal is that all students will meet or exceed these standards when being assessed later in this 2013-2014 school year.

Names of the Title I schools that did and did not meet the AYP standards for 2012-2013 were released by the Nebraska Department of Education in the *State of the Schools* Report on September 27, 2013. You can compare and contrast the proficiencies of all Nebraska schools, including all schools in Lincoln Public Schools, at the following website: <http://www.education.ne.gov/documents/SOSR.html>. The link to follow is "2012-2013 Report".

The attached fact sheet will show our school's proficiency over the past several years. School staff have developed a comprehensive plan that includes actively communicating with parents through this process, identifying and addressing the specific needs of students, and expanding the knowledge base and skills of our teachers. The District has provided assistance to our school through staff training and planning, opportunities to improve our instructional strategies and informing the public and parents about how we are addressing the issues of AYP.

It takes two years to prove that our students are making adequate yearly progress and be removed from the School Improvement classification; therefore, our school will be designated as School Improvement for at least two years. The law provides the option for students who live in our attendance area to choose and enroll in another LPS school that did meet AYP. Transportation may be provided to some of the schools in the district. A list of the schools available for choice with transportation and schools available without transportation is attached. Only those schools that have met AYP are eligible for the school choice option. If you are interested in having your child attend another school, please contact our school office at 402-436-1161 by October 11th to take advantage of this option as the second quarter starts on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

The teachers of Prescott Elementary are working to implement a plan to support the learning of all of our students. We are making program improvements in reading and math as well as supplemental supports in these two areas. We invite you to help in planning additional improvements for our future. If you are interested in helping in this effort, please join us at a parent meeting on **November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** in the Prescott library. Even if you cannot join us in our planning, you can help your child by reading with your son or daughter and encouraging them to always do their best in school. If you have any questions, please contact me at 402-436-1161.

Sincerely,

Ruth Ann Wylie  
Principal