

October 15, 2007

Dear K. D. Waldo Parents/Guardians and Community Members:

The updated Restructuring and School Improvement Plans of K. D. Waldo Middle School have been submitted and accepted for the 2007-2008 school year. Our school data was utilized to create this plan which provides special intervention for four subgroups.

As we compare the 2006 School Report Card to the 2007 School Report Card, it still reflects that Waldo students made adequate yearly progress (AYP) in the "All" category. Regarding the improvement of subgroups, only two subgroups, IEP (Disabled) math and reading students, did not make AYP; whereas last year there were four subgroups that did not make AYP.

Because our mission is to continuously find avenues to help all students make AYP, we have designed interventions to give additional academic support. One such intervention is being provided by the literacy and math coaches. They work with IEP students weekly using the Help One Student To Succeed (HOSTS) program or Study Island. Other students will be able to participate in the Family Focus or Supplemental Education Support programs after school. If these opportunities are not an option for students, teachers may arrange for tutoring before or after school for students who are not meeting the academic criteria. Additionally, this is the first year that students will be looping, thereby have the same team of teachers they had last year. Data shows that students will have measurable academic improvement with these strategies and programs that are available for them this year at Waldo.

In another category of school improvement, the professional development at Waldo continues to be supportive of all of the needs of the students and teachers. The math and literacy coaches regularly work with teachers regarding curriculum and instruction. Administrators and RESPRO coaches work with teachers to develop reading and writing across the curriculum. Furthermore, the Stiggins Study group will provide professional development for teachers to help them design assessments of and for learning. All of these opportunities for professional development will certainly empower our teachers.

Ultimately, we continue to implement PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support) at all levels to teach and motivate students to make good choices. Last year Waldo was recognized for fully implementing the universal phase of PBIS, which is a strong start toward implementing the secondary and tertiary phases. We have organized our teams to get training and begin implementation of these two levels to provide support that is needed by some students.

Waldo's restructuring will continue to move vigorously during this school year as we are committed to helping all students reach their highest levels of achievement. We invite you to get involved with our efforts.

Sincerely,

Earline H. Barnes  
Principal