



Dawson County Schools

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Doris Cook, Chairman
Cecil Bennett, Vice-Chairman
Roger Slaton
William Wade
Elaine Wilson

August 08-2013

ESEA FLEXIBILITY WAIVER PARENT NOTIFICATION - NO SCHOOL DESIGNATION

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

On February 9, 2012 the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) received waivers from ten requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, as amended by No Child Left Behind (NCLB) of 2001. ESEA/NCLB requires that parents or guardians who have children attending a Title I school be notified of the school's academic achievement as well as a school's designation under Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver. This letter is intended to provide additional information concerning the options available to your child under Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver, and to help you understand what the waiver will mean for you and your child.

Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, the GaDOE transitioned from needs improvement (NI) school designations based on adequate yearly progress (AYP) reports to Reward, Priority, Focus and Alert Schools designations based on ESEA Flexibility Waiver formulas. Title I schools will now implement specific programs and interventions based on Reward, Priority, Focus, and Alert Schools status. In addition, the GaDOE ESEA Flexibility Waiver outlines Georgia's new Single Statewide Accountability System, the College and Career Readiness Performance Index (CCRPI). The CCRPI will serve as a comprehensive report card for all schools in Georgia. The state system will give parents, students, teachers and families a more complete and comprehensive picture of where a school or district is meeting performance expectations and where it is not.

The Georgia ESEA Flexibility Waiver also eliminated Supplemental Educational Services (SES) and Public School Choice (Choice). However, for schools designated as Priority or Focus (or Alert if they choose to provide the service) the Georgia ESEA Flexibility Waiver provides greater flexibility in designing a flexible learning program (FLP) tailored to the needs of the schools. As a result, these identified schools will have the capacity to serve more students in need of additional academic support.

I am very proud to tell you that none of Dawson County Schools have been given a school designation this year which means we are continuing to provide a quality education to all of our students. To view the performance rating for your child's school, visit the Georgia Department of Education website at <http://ccrpi.gadoe.org/2012/>. From this page, select "Dawson County" as the district, and then select the individual school. The final 2013 reports will not be posted until later in the fall; however, in the meantime, you may contact your individual school for a summary of 2013 performance.

The Dawson County School District takes pride in the educational opportunities we are able to provide for our children. Our teachers and staff members work very hard to meet the needs of all students to ensure academic success. We have evidence that students are learning and making good progress, and we consider this to be an important indicator of success.

As we are achieving in many areas, we also know there is always room for improvement. An important part of our success is parent participation and support in developing activities to improve student achievement. We hope that as a parent/guardian, you will become involved in our school improvement initiatives as we continue to monitor student achievement and set high expectations. If you are interested in participating in developing our school improvement initiatives so we can continue to excel, please contact the principal of your child's school as shown below.

Black's Mill Elementary – Mrs. Cindy Kinney – (706) 216 – 3300 – ckinney@dawson.k12.ga.us
Kilough Elementary – Mrs. Tracey Compton – (706) 216 – 8595 – tcompton@dawson.k12.ga.us
Riverview Elementary – Mrs. Julia Mashburn – (706) 216 – 5812 – jmashburn@dawson.k12.ga.us
Robinson Elementary – Ms. Roxanne Fausett- (706) 265 – 6544 – rfausett@dawson.k12.ga.us
Dawson County Middle – Dr. Mark Merges – (706) 216 – 5801 – mmerges@dawson.k12.ga.us
Riverview Middle School – Mr. Bill Zadernak – (706) 216 – 4849 – bzadernak@dawson.k12.ga.us
Dawson County High – Dr. Jute Wilson – (706) 265 – 6555 – jwilson@dawson.k12.ga.us
Hightower Academy – Mr. Matt Wark – (706) 265 – 1244 – mwark@dawson.k12.ga.us

Thank you for all that you do to support your child's education.

Sincerely,

Dr. Janice Darnell

Director of Student Support
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