



MONTICELLO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Building Excellence Through Trust

December 2011

Dear Parents:

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001 requires all schools to ensure that their students must reach proficiency on New York State Assessments. These proficiency targets require all New York State public schools make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), showing that all of its students are progressing toward proficiency. Based on its performance, each school is classified for the purpose of accountability. For example, a school *meeting* the required level of achievement would be given the rating, *School in Good Standing*. Please note, for the 2011-2012 school year, Kenneth L. Rutherford Elementary School is cited as a *School In Need of Improvement: Year 1: Focused for ELA*.

During the 2009-2010 school year Kenneth L. Rutherford Elementary School was identified as a *School in Good Standing* because it succeeded in meeting required performance standard for all students in ELA. Schools are measured on the achievement of all of its students taking the exams and all sub-groups tested. Student *subgroups* include such categories as: ethnic/racial groups, economic standing, and students under the Committee on Special Education, or students who have a limited English proficiency.

It takes two years to become an identified school and two years of performance to be removed from the identification list. Below is a chart for student performance:

Year	Performance Score for All students	State Requirement for All Students
2006	144	117
2007	160	117
2008	182	128
2009	176	139
2010	160	150
2011	112	115

Kenneth L. Rutherford Elementary School, as well as most other schools across the state, is working to improve test scores in ELA and math. We have taken a number of steps to improve instruction and provide support to students. These include:

1. Revising and aligning the curriculum with the new Common CORE Standards.
2. Assessing our students' needs as well as identifying their learning styles.
3. Promoting differentiated instruction to provide each student with the appropriate instructional methodology and any needed interventions that matches their learning style
4. Providing all third grade students receive systematic instruction to sharpen word attack skills (including phonics, sight words and spelling), and daily activities to improve fluency and reading comprehension.
5. Providing all third grade students with a systematic instructional approach to ensure the acquisition of useful word attack skills (including phonics, sight words and spelling), and daily activities to improve fluency and reading comprehension of fiction and non-fiction texts
6. Providing students with extra help through an afternoon tutorial program.
7. Helping students with test-taking techniques to better understand test questions
8. Reviewing the pattern of student answers to better identify student strengths and weaknesses

9. Offering push-in English Language Arts instruction and extended English Language Arts periods.
10. Offering direct instruction and a multi-sensory program for students who need specialized instruction with fluency and decoding.

As a district we are committed to improving our students' test scores. It will take hard work and cooperation on the part of students, parents, and teachers to achieve our common goal.

As we work to improve the school, parents should be aware that they have certain rights under NCLB. These include:

- If you are a parent of an eligible student who attends Kenneth L. Rutherford Elementary School, you may ask about Supplemental Educational Services (SES) that may be available for your child. Supplemental Educational Services are extra academic services provided to eligible Title I students outside of the regular school day. These services are free of charge to eligible students.
- If you a parent of as student who attends Kenneth L. Rutherford Elementary School, you may ask about School Choice options to transfer your child to another middle school served by the district, should that school have the capacity to enroll your child.

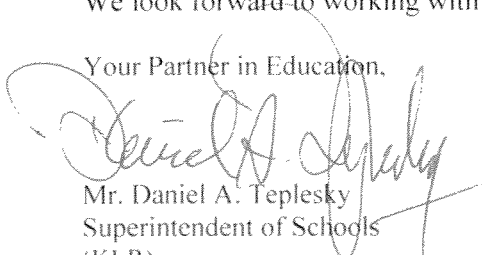
If you have any questions about restructuring, you may direct your questions to the principal, Mrs. Kimberly Patterson, at 794-4240. If you have questions about services available to students, you may direct your questions to the principal or to Dr. Kenneth Newman, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning at 794-7700. If you have a problem which has not been resolved after working with the principal or Assistant Superintendent, you may contact me at 794-7700.

Please help us raise the level of achievement by doing the following:

1. have your child attend school every day
2. monitor your child's progress and be in touch with his/her teacher
3. encourage your child to take advantage of extra help opportunities

We look forward to working with the entire educational community in improving student achievement.

Your Partner in Education,



Mr. Daniel A. Teplesky
Superintendent of Schools
(KLR)