

Sayreville Public Schools
Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders

Sayreville Board of Education
Sayreville, New Jersey

*School Website: www.sayrevillek12.net
Frank.Alfano@sayrevillek12.net*

*Dr. Frank R. Alfano,
Superintendent of Schools*

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We are dedicated to providing all students with the educational foundation necessary to succeed in school and in life. To ensure your child's success, we have set high standards that are reflected in what is taught in our classrooms. The *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB) requires that adequate yearly progress (AYP) in language arts literacy and mathematics be measured annually for each school in New Jersey.

AYP is based primarily on the results of the New Jersey state assessments given to students in grades 3 through 8 and grade 11. Schools must meet the state's academic proficiency benchmarks, as well as other indicators such as test participation and attendance/dropout rate, to make AYP. These benchmarks increase on an incremental basis every three years.

Schools that do not make AYP for one year (Year 1) receive an Early Warning designation to alert them that students did not meet at least one of the AYP indicators. If a school does not make AYP for two or more consecutive years in the same content area (language arts literacy and mathematics) it is identified as a school in need of improvement and certain sanctions must be applied.

Sayreville Middle School has not made AYP and has been identified for improvement as follows: Sayreville Middle School did not make AYP in language arts literacy and mathematics for the second consecutive year. The school is in Year 2 status, which means that the district must offer either school choice and/or supplemental educational services. Because Sayreville only has one middle school, school choice is not an option. Information about how Sayreville Middle School compares academically in language arts literacy and mathematics is available on the New Jersey Department of Education website at: <http://education.state.nj.us/rc/>.

The school improvement requirements that apply to your child's school are checked off below.

- Year 2 – Supplemental Educational Services:** Our district is unable to provide the choice option; supplemental educational services (SES) are available to income-eligible students. These services, such as tutoring, are offered over and above those ordinarily provided in the regular classroom during the normal school day and afterschool program. *Students must be income-eligible to receive SES.* Parents will be notified separately if their child is eligible. SES providers must be state-approved and posted on the New Jersey Department of Education web site at <http://education.state.nj.us/ses/2011/>. If you exercise this option and *your child is eligible*, the school must pay for these services, up to a threshold, using Title 1 funds. You will receive a list of local providers describing the services, qualifications, and evidence of effectiveness for each provider. Upon request, your child's teacher or principal will assist you in selecting an appropriate provider.

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"AFFIRMATIVE ACTION – EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/F"

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Some of the steps we have already taken or plan to implement this year to address the problem(s) that placed your child's school in improvement status include the following:

- After school tutorials to support students in language arts and mathematics
- Summer reading and mathematics program to support students' academic needs
- Benchmark assessments to monitor student's progress throughout the year
- Regular meetings of teachers to plan instruction for targeted students who have not attained proficiency
- Use of Study Island to provide students with targeted instruction
- Continued intensive, targeted professional development for teachers and administrators
- Enhanced program of small group and differentiated instruction
- Hiring of a reading specialist to consult with teachers about best practices and plan interventions to help students master the New Jersey Core Content Curriculum Standards

We want to continue serving your child, and we'll use all the resources available to us to help our students achieve. An important part of this effort involves parental involvement and support. The district and each school must develop and implement a parental involvement policy. We encourage you to become involved in this and other initiatives at your child's school by contacting Donna Jakubik, Principal at 732-525-5290. Building and maintaining a high-quality school, is a job for the entire community.

We will continue to communicate with you throughout the year regarding the school improvement efforts underway and hope you will join us in supporting our students and teachers as we work toward reaching our goals for next year.

Sincerely,

Frank Alfano

Frank Alfano, Ed.D.
Superintendent