

# **Important Information about Willard Elementary School**

May 10, 2010

## **WHY IS MY SCHOOL IDENTIFIED FOR IMPROVEMENT?**

- Our school has not made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for 2 years, based on state ISTEP+ test results.
- Our school did not make AYP this year in the following areas: English/Language Arts for Free and Reduced lunch students
- Enclosed is a report showing how our school's performance compares to other schools in our district and our state.
- Additional information about our school's performance can be found at [www.doe.in.gov/data/](http://www.doe.in.gov/data/).

## **WHAT DOES SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT MEAN?**

- A school is identified for improvement after it has not made AYP for two consecutive years.
- Schools in improvement will be in one of two groups, depending on the extent to which the school needs to improve:
  - Focused improvement schools are schools that did not make AYP in a few areas.
  - Comprehensive improvement schools did not make AYP in many areas.
- The levels of support and the requirements from the Indiana Department of Education are different for focused schools and for comprehensive schools. Designed to target resources based on the level of need, this approach for supporting schools is called the Differentiated Accountability Model and has been approved by the U.S. Department of Education.
- Our school is identified for YEAR 1, FOCUSED IMPROVEMENT.

## **WHAT IS MY SCHOOL DOING TO ADDRESS MY STUDENT'S NEEDS?**

- The school will develop a plan that meets the needs of all students
- The district and state will help us by providing funding or training for teachers, hiring of new teachers, or offering extra programs such as after school or summer school tutoring.
- Parents will have the option to transfer their child to another school or enroll him/her in free tutoring services.

## **WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?**

- Be sure that your child attends school every day.
- Parents can volunteer in their child's class; attend parent meetings and family nights.
- Parents are needed to review our Title I parent policy and compacts, as well as our school improvement plan.

## AS A PARENT, WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS UNDER SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT?

### SCHOOL CHOICE

- All students may transfer to a different school in our district.
- You are not required to move your student to a new school.
- The school district will pay for all transportation costs as long as the school continues to be in improvement.
- If our school comes out of improvement (after making AYP for two consecutive years), your child may stay at the transfer school, but you will have to provide transportation.
- **If you want to transfer your child, please fill out the enclosed Request for Transfer form and return by June 30, 2010.**
- Information about school choice is available at [www.rc.k12.in.us](http://www.rc.k12.in.us).

| School Options       | Grades Served | Location          | Fall 2008 ISTEP+ Data   | State Performance Data  |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------------|---|---|
| Deerfield Elementary | K - 5         | 213 E. St. Rd. 28 | Grade Eng. Math<br>3    73%   76%<br>4    55%   79%<br>5    71%   82% | Grade Eng. Math<br>3    74%   70%<br>4    73%   73%<br>5    74%   77% |
|                      |               |                   |   |   |
|                      |               |                   |   |   |

### FREE TUTORING

- If your child stays at our school, he/she may be eligible for free reading or math tutoring.
- Your child is eligible if:
  - He/she receives free/reduced price lunch, **and**
  - Did not pass ISTEP+ (or other measure of academic success).
- Tutoring may take place after school, on the weekends, or during the summer.
- More information, including a list of approved tutoring providers and enrollment information, will be sent to you in August.
- Information about free tutoring is available at [www.rc.k12.in.us](http://www.rc.k12.in.us)

If you have any questions or would like more information about school choice, free tutoring, or how you can help us improve, please call Mrs. Lisa Chalfant, Director of Curriculum at (765) 584-1401 by June 12, 2010 with specific questions you have regarding school choice. We will be happy to assist you.