



BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Building a Learning Community

September 1, 2010

Dear Smith School Parents and Guardians:

According to the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), we are required to send this notice to all parents. However, in accordance with NCLB, only students who qualify for free / reduced lunch are eligible to apply for these services.

In March, the Vermont Department of Education identified C.P. Smith School as a school in need of improvement based upon student performance on state NECAP tests administered in October 2009. Smith School did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in reading and math for students receiving F/R lunch. We will receive technical assistance from the State Department of Education to support our improvement efforts.

As a result, the school is required to provide Supplemental Educational Services – extra academic assistance/tutoring to improve eligible students' academic performance – free of charge. If you are eligible and choose to participate, you'll be able to select a program that best fits your child's needs. This letter will explain the new services, tell you how to access them and also offer ideas about how you can be involved at Smith School.

Eligibility: Only children who are eligible for free and reduced-price federal meals can participate. We have attached an application to participate in this program. If you have not previously applied for free and reduced-price federal meals program, please return the Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application along with the application for Supplemental Educational Services.

Limited services available: Only a limited number of spaces are available. As a result, we may not be able to enroll every child whose parent applies. We will give first priority to the lowest-achieving students. This achievement level will be based on the student's score on the NECAP test.

You get to choose: One of the most important features of Supplemental Educational Services is that families are the ones who will make choices for their children. You can choose among different types of services, given by different providers at different locations. Remember that there's no obligation to enroll your child in Supplemental Educational Services.

Service providers: The Vermont Department of Education has approved a list of eligible providers. If you wish to have your child receive tutoring from one of these approved providers, please complete the enclosed application.



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Application deadline: If you decide you want to enroll your student in the Supplemental Educational Services program, you must submit the enclosed application to Thomas Fleury by October 6, 2010. We will let you know by October 10, 2010 if we have approved your application to have your child participate in the Supplemental Educational Services program. We hope to begin programs the week of October 26, 2010.

Questions: If you have questions regarding the Supplemental Educational Services program please contact School Improvement Coordinator at 238-3995.

How you can get involved in the school: We are updating our action plan to continue to improve our focused assistance for students who are not progressing as we would like. We would like to have parents involved in this process. Please contact your school principal, Thomas Fleury, if you wish to learn more and participate in our improvement process.

What we're doing to improve outcomes at Smith School is to provide more academic support in reading and math and common planning time for teachers to meet to adopt curriculum:

Sincerely,

Thomas Fluery
Principal
C.P. Smith School
864-8479

Jeanne Collins,
Superintendent
Burlington School District
865-5332

Enclosures: Vermont's approved list of Supplemental Educational Services providers
Application for Supplemental Educational Services
Application for Federal Free and Reduced-Price Meal Program