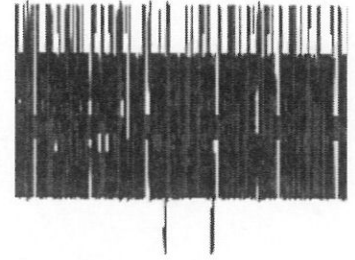




# Clarkson Public School

649 Cherry Street, PO Box 140, Clarkson, NE 68629 Phone 402-892-3454 Fax 402-892-3455



Dear Parents,

The federal education legislation, No Child Left Behind, mandated that all students must be proficient on reading and math academic standards by 2014. Schools are expected to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward that goal. AYP is based primarily on the results of the Nebraska state assessments (NeSA) given to students in grades 3 through 8 and grade 11. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Clarkson Public Schools has been identified as a Title I school "in need of improvement" based upon NeSA test results in 2013-2014 and 2014-2015.

The NCLB expectation for last year was to have 100% of all students in grades 3-8, & 11, be proficient on the reading and math standards. Additional information about how our school compared to other schools is available on the NDE website at: <http://www.education.ne.gov/documents/SOSR.html>. A district is identified for improvement if it meets this criterion:

Does not make AYP in all grade spans within the district for two consecutive years in either content area of math or reading, considering all eligible student subgroups. Subgroups are identified by state or federal reporting based upon qualifiers such as ethnicity, gender, free and reduced and special education.

As you look at the whole picture of your child's education it is important to know Clarkson continually scores well in test comparisons across the state and national levels. This past year Clarkson Public School students averaged 23.6 on the ACT, which is nearly two points above the state and national average. In the area of our MAPS/NWEA testing, which has replaced the old ITBS testing, we average above the 50th percentile which means our students score above the norms of those across the nation on the MAPS/NWEA testing in the area of reading, math, language arts and science.

As a Title I district identified in need of improvement, our district will file an improvement plan with the State to address areas of concern. Future professional development will center upon training teachers to optimize instruction for all learners using researched based practices with on-going professional learning for staff.

An important part of this effort involves parental involvement and support. We encourage parents to ask questions about student's school day, have students read aloud, and set aside a time and place for homework are only a few of the things that you can do. Your child's teacher can give you additional strategies to work on at home. Student achievement is a partnership between school and home; and a strong partnership has been proven to be effective in helping student achievement. Clarkson Public Schools continually looks at data and looking at ways to improve the education of our students and you can feel at rest that your children are getting a great education at Clarkson Public Schools.

Please call Mr. Lemburg if you have any questions about the AYP status or the plan to improve academic achievement.

Sincerely,

*Rich Lemburg*

Superintendent/Principal, Clarkson Public Schools