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DISTRICT ESEA FLEXIBILITY WAIVER PARENT NOTIFICATION

August 3, 2015

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 requires that parents or guardians who have children attending a Title I school be notified of how well their child's school is preparing its students for college and/or a career, as well as the school's designation status under Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver.

Under the 2015 renewal of Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver, certain Title I schools continue to be designated as Reward, Priority, or Focus Schools. The Waiver allows the use of the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) as the comprehensive report card for all schools in Georgia, providing a score between 0-100 for each school—measuring how well the school is doing in preparing its students to be successful in college and/or a career.

Houston County Schools' CCRPI score of 76.6 outscored the state average by several points. More information about the details of the score and scores from your child's individual school can be found at www.ccrpi.gadoe.org.

Priority Schools and Focus Schools receive their designation based on student achievement on statewide assessments. Schools keep their designation until they meet the exit criteria for Priority or Focus School status. Reward Schools are identified annually.

- **Reward Schools** are Title I schools that are either among the State's highest performing schools or schools with significantly high progress. They are identified annually. Highest Performing Reward Schools are among the highest 5% of Title I schools in the state based on the achievement of the "all students" group in terms of proficiency on the statewide assessments that are part of the state's CCRPI. High Progress Reward Schools are among the highest 10% of Title I schools in the state based on the progress in improving the performance of the "all students" group over a number of years on the statewide assessments that are part of the state's CCRPI.
- **Priority Schools** are among the lowest 5% of Title I schools in the state based on achievement of the "all students" group in terms of proficiency on the statewide assessments that are part of the state's CCRPI or high schools with a four-year cohort graduation rate less than 60 percent in 2013 and 2014.
- **Focus Schools** are among the lowest 10% of Title I schools in the state that have a subgroup or subgroups with low achievement in terms of proficiency on the statewide assessments that are part of the state's CCRPI.

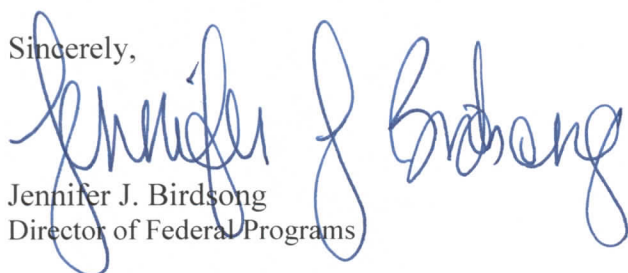
Specific Title I schools with designations in Houston County include:

- **Lindsey Elementary School:** Reward school designation for Highest Progressing School.
- **Eagle Springs Elementary School:** Reward school designation for Highest Performing School.
- **Shirley Hills Elementary School:** Reward school designation for Highest Performing School.
- **Miller Elementary School:** Focus school designation due to subgroup proficiency on statewide assessments for school years 2011-2012, 2012-2013, and 2013-2014.
- **Pearl Stephens Elementary School:** Focus school designation due to subgroup proficiency on statewide assessments for school years 2011-2012, 2012-2013, and 2013-2014. *Please note that this designation was based upon school performance for the three years prior to rezoning and school staffing changes for the new 3rd-5th Pearl Stephens Elementary.*
- **Huntington Middle School:** Huntington Middle was originally designated in Fall 2011 due to subgroup gaps with English Language Learners and Students with Disabilities. Huntington Middle has not exited Focus school status from this original designation.

You will be receiving more information from your child's school regarding the school's academic performance and what academic supports will be taking place throughout the year if your child's school has been named as a Priority or Focus School. All of our schools, regardless of designation or of no designation, continue to provide a quality education to our students.

If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact Carla Thorpe, District Parent Involvement Coordinator at (478)988-6200 or carla.thorpe@hcbe.net.

Sincerely,



Jennifer J. Birdsong
Director of Federal Programs