

Vidalia City Schools

301 Adams Street
Vidalia, Georgia 30474

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TO: Parents and Guardians of J. R. Trippe Middle School students
RE: Title I Notification for the 2014-2015 school year of the Flexibility Waiver
FROM: Gwen Warren, Principal

This letter is intended to provide information concerning Georgia's Flexibility Waiver and what it will mean for you and your student. Beginning in the 2012-2013 school year, the Georgia Department of Education transitioned from the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) designation for Georgia's schools to Reward, Priority, Focus and Alert School designations. In addition, this waiver outlines Georgia's new accountability system called the College and Career Readiness Performance Index (CCRPI). The state system will give parents, students, teachers and families a more complete and comprehensive picture of where a school or district is meeting performance expectations and where it is not.

Despite the progress made by our students, J. R. Trippe has been designated as a Focus School under Georgia's Flexibility Waiver for the second year. This designation was based on 2011 test data and our school will keep this designation for one more year.

Focus Schools are 10% of Title I schools that have the largest within-school gaps between the highest-achieving subgroup and the lowest achieving subgroup. J. R. Trippe had a gap of three standard deviations in mathematics between two of our subgroups. As a Focus School, we have been working collaboratively with parents, guardians, our community, and our central office to develop a school turnaround plan which will implement interventions to respond to the specific needs of improving the performance of our low-performing subgroup.

An important part of the success plan for J. R. Trippe Middle School is parent participation and support in developing activities to improve student achievement. We hope that, as a concerned parent, you will become involved in our school improvement initiatives as we continue to monitor student achievement and set high expectations. Please feel free to contact me at 912-537-3813 or e-mail me at gwarren@vidalia-city.k12.ga.us.

Thank you!