



Amityville Union Free School District

150 Park Avenue, Amityville, NY 11701

John R. Williams, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

631-598-6520

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

After examining data for the state assessments administered during the 2009-10 school year, we are pleased to announce that Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School (PAMES) which your child attends achieved Adequate Yearly Progress. You will recall that last year, the Students With Disabilities subgroup failed to meet its goal causing the entire school to have a status of "Corrective Action I." All subgroups met their goals this year, but the law requires two years of Adequate Yearly Progress before the school can be designated as a "School in Good Standing." Consequently, the school is still required to take the same actions that they took last year. When that happens, the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 mandates that districts take several actions.

First, schools in corrective action must offer public school choice within the district to all students of the school, even if they do not belong to the specific subgroup who failed to meet the target. This means that a parent would be able to send his or her child to a different school within the district that met two (2) conditions: (a) it housed the grade level that the child needed, and (b) it was in good academic standing. In the case of Amityville, PAMES is the only district school to house grades 3-6, so school choice is not an option.

Next, the school is required to make parents aware of the availability of Supplemental Educational Services (SES) that is available outside the district. SES is academic enrichment activities including tutoring that are available outside the regular school day by non-district providers. These providers are located throughout the region and have been approved by the New York State Education Department. The district must set aside an amount equal to a percentage of its Title I funds to pay for the services. Low-income students with the lowest state assessment scores will receive preference. Interested parents must contact the Amityville School District with their selection so contracts and payment may be arranged. If you need any further information, please feel free to contact Mr. Scott Bullis, PAMES Principal, at 631-565-6300, or email the State Education Department at nclbnys@mail.nysed.gov. You have already received information in the mail about SES.

Finally, the school and district must develop a plan to improve the outcome of those students who are not proficient on the state tests, and we have already begun that process. As part of our efforts to improve student performance at PAMES, we provide an extensive after-school program. These classes will be open to all students. We include transportation. We also plan to continue our summer school programs for academic intervention for eligible students at PAMES and for English Language Learners if sufficient funds are available.

During the school day, students who struggle will be assigned to lab classes to reinforce their skills, and/or to specially-designed programs for the same purpose. An extensive staff development plan has been arranged to assist our teachers to better serve the needs of students who are not proficient at grade level work. The State Education Department will provide assistance, as well as grant funds, to enable us to meet our goals.

We believe that PAMES is a fine school. We also wholeheartedly believe that with parents, teachers, administrators and staff working together, all of its students can succeed. We invite your participation in our efforts to continuously improve the services we provide.

Sincerely,

John R. Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

JRW:lb

att:

cc: Dr. Kathleen Gulbin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Scott Bullis, PAMES Principal

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