



El Monte Union High School District

3537 Johnson Avenue • El Monte, California 91731

(626) 444-9005

July 5, 2011

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To the Parents/Guardians of students at El Monte High School:

The El Monte Union High School District is currently planning for the Fall 2011. Your child is scheduled to attend El Monte High School. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that our school continues to be identified as a Program Improvement (PI) school under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001. The school was a PI Year 2 school in 2010-11 and, based on preliminary data, will become PI Year 3 school in corrective action.

What is PI?

NCLB requires the state and district to review annually the academic progress of federally funded Title I schools and to identify schools in need of improvement. These schools are identified as PI schools after two consecutive years of not making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). California determines AYP by considering the following four measures:

- The percentage of students scoring at the “proficient” or “advanced” level on the California High School Exit Exam for English-language arts and mathematics
- The percentage of students participating in those tests
- The graduation rate for high schools
- California’s own accountability measurement of progress, the Academic Performance Index (API)

Why is our school identified as PI?

The reason for this identification is that our school did not achieve the AYP goals in the area of English-language arts for the English learner subgroup.

The school’s 2010-11 Accountability Progress Reports may be obtained from the school or on the California Department of Education (CDE) website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ay>.

Public school choice: What right does a parent have to request a transfer to a school that is not in PI?

All parents/guardians of students attending a PI school have the right to request a transfer of their children to a non-PI school with district-paid transportation.

For parents who select this option, the district will provide transportation to the non-PI school for as long as the home school continues to be identified as a PI school. If the home school exits PI by making AYP for two consecutive years, the student can remain at the school; however, transportation will no longer be district-paid. If the demand for choice exceeds funds available, priority will be given to lowest achieving, low-income students.

The following non-PI school will accept El Monte High School students who choose to transfer under this federal option of school choice for the 2011-12 school year:

	School	2010 API Score	2010 CAHSEE English-Language Arts Percent Proficient Goal = 55.6%	2010 CAHSEE Mathematics Percent Proficient Goal = 54.8%
PI School	El Monte High 3048 N. Tyler Ave. El Monte, CA 91731	702	22.9% (English learners)	28.5% (English learners)
Choice School	Bassett High 755 Ardilla Ave. La Puente, CA 91746	694	26.4% (English learners)	33.9% (English learners)

Applications for transfer to Bassett High School are available at the Educational Services office at the district. You can also download a copy from the district website at http://emuhsd.org/index.php/district/district_resources/esea/. A school of choice application is for an individual student only. A separate application for each individual student must be filed. Applications must be completed and returned to the district **NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2011 AT 3:00 P.M.**

The district office is located at 3537 Johnson Avenue, El Monte, California. The phone number is (626) 444-9005, extension 4421 or 4422. The office is open Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.

Parents who wish their child remain at El Monte High School do not need to complete an application.

Supplemental Educational Services (SES): How does a parent obtain a provider for their child?

Parents who do not select the school choice option and whose children are assigned to El Monte High School may qualify to receive Supplemental Educational Services (SES). SES is tutoring in reading/language arts and mathematics by a State-approved provider. Information regarding SES for the 2011-12 school year will be sent home in August.

What will the school do to address the problem of low achievement?

We are working closely with the district staff to revise our school plan to include:

- Strategies, policies, and practices that utilize scientifically-based research and have the greatest likelihood of ensuring that all groups of students will meet the state's achievement targets
- High quality professional development for school staff that will lead to removing the school from PI status
- Strategies to promote effective parental involvement in the school

What are the district and state doing to support schools in Program Improvement?

Our district is working closely with the CDE to improve curriculum, instruction, and student performance. The CDE provides information, special help, and access to resources for PI schools. PI schools will receive district and/or state technical assistance in:

- Analyzing various data reports for revising the school plan
- Strengthening core academic instruction
- Collaborating with parents to increase student academic achievement

How can parents become involved?

Research shows that strong parental involvement leads to student success at school. Parents interested in partnering with the school are encouraged to contact the school for additional information regarding:

- Parental involvement policies
- School-parent compact
- Ongoing parent/community meetings
- Advisory committee/school site council meetings
- Parent volunteer opportunities

We will keep you updated and informed about opportunities to discuss plans for our school. If you have questions, need additional information on how you can get involved in our school improvement efforts, or would like to discuss the school's instructional program and PI status, please feel free to call me and/or visit the school.

Sincerely,



Nick Salerno, Superintendent



Joel Kyne, Assistant Superintendent
Educational Services



Keith Richardson, Principal
El Monte High School