

Hawkins County Schools

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July 29, 2011

Dear Parent:

Rogersville Middle School has been identified by the Tennessee Department of Education as a “High Priority” school in School Improvement I. This means that students have not met state and federal goals in Reading/Language Arts for the subgroup, Students With Disabilities. Results of spring test scores indicate that twelve of the district’s eighteen schools met state and federal goals. Thirty percent of the state’s elementary and middle school students scored proficient to advanced in math and 44.5% scored proficient to advanced in reading. At the high school level, 56.7% of the state’s students scored proficient to advanced in mathematics (Algebra I) and 39.4% scored proficient to advanced in reading (English II). The state’s graduation rate is 86.1%. Twenty-nine percent of the students at Rogersville Middle scored proficient to advanced in math, and 42% of the students scored proficient to advanced in Reading/Language Arts. The attendance rate for RMS for 2010-2011 was 93.4%.

Because Rogersville Middle School is a Title I high priority school, your child is eligible to transfer to another public school in the district. You may choose to transfer your child to one of the following schools:

<u>Choice School</u>	<i>% of Students Proficient & Advanced in Math in 2010-2011 (Target 40%)</i>	<i>% of Students Proficient & Advanced in Reading in 2010-2011 (Target 49%)</i>	<i>Attendance Rate in 2010-2011 (Target 93%)</i>
Bulls Gap School	49	58	95.1%
Surgoinsville Middle	47	63	95.0%

If you choose to transfer your child, please be aware of the following:

- The district will provide or pay for transportation to and from your child’s choice school as long as Rogersville Middle is a high priority school identified for improvement. If Rogersville Middle meets achievement goals for two straight years, it will no longer be a high priority school. When the school meets federal standards for two straight years and is removed from the high priority list, the district will no longer provide transportation. Your child will be allowed to remain at the choice school until he/she completes the highest grade at the choice school. However, you will be responsible for providing transportation should you choose to leave your child at the school.
- If funds are not available for all students to be transported, priority for transportation will be given to the lowest achieving students from low-income families.
- If requests for a choice school exceed that school’s capacity, priority for first choice will be given to the lowest achieving students from low-income families.

The district is putting in place the following supports for Rogersville Middle School:

- Staff development activities will be provided to ensure researched based practices are implemented in each classroom.
- Literacy practices and intervention will be implemented for at-risk students.

- District level personnel will be assigned to work with the school on school improvement planning.
- Ninety minute periods have been established for Math and Reading/Language Arts classes.

The school is working closely with the state and district to increase student achievement in math and reading by:

- Ensuring that staff development is focused to help teachers improve student achievement of the most at-risk students.
- Monitoring instructional strategies to ensure research based practices are implemented in the classroom.
- Monitoring literacy practices and intervention to ensure at-risk students are making progress; and modifying instructional practices for those students who do not show progress within a given timeframe.
- An emphasis will be placed on improving communication between the school and home in an effort to help parents become equal partners in their child's education.
- Educating parents on changes in state standards and how they can support their child throughout their education.
- Providing progress reports to parents every three weeks during the nine week grading period.

We encourage you to become an active partner in your child's education by:

- Communicating with teachers about your child's progress. Review progress reports every three weeks and any school communications.
- Learning about state standards by visiting the Hawkins County Schools' website or the school website.
- Attending parent activities offered by your child's school.
- Encouraging high, yet reasonable expectations.
- Preparing your child for high school courses and career choices by talking with him/her about future educational options.

If you would like for your child to transfer, you must complete the attached form and return it to the school district. The form must be postmarked no later than August, 15, 2011. A self addressed, stamped envelope is provided for your convenience. All information should be mailed to:

Hawkins County Schools
 Attention: Reba Bailey
 200 North Depot Street
 Rogersville, TN 37857

Personnel from the Hawkins County School District will notify you to provide transportation information and the date your child may start attending the Choice School. Please contact Reba Bailey at 423-272-7629, ext 115 if you have questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

Reba Bailey, Ed.D.
 Hawkins County Schools
 Federal Programs Director

Enclosure: School Choice Request Form
 Self-addressed, stamped envelope