

Sample Parent Notification:
School in Need of Improvement (Year 2)

Dear Parent,

Your child attends _____ Elementary School, which receives federal Title I funds to assist students in meeting state achievement standards. Your child's school has not met these standards for three years and did not meet state standards in reading in the 2008-2009 school year. _____ Elementary School has been identified as a School in Need of Improvement. As a result, the district must offer your child the option to transfer to a higher performing school and to participate in free tutoring, if eligible.

The table below shows the percent of proficient students in your child's school compared to the average percentage of proficient elementary school students in the district and state.

Percent of Elementary School Students Scoring Level 3 (Proficient) or Higher on FCAT			
SUBJECT	SCHOOL	DISTRICT	STATE
Reading	45%	79%	72%
Mathematics	65%	78%	72%
Writing	85%	88%	85%

What are we doing about it?

The Pinellas County School District is providing the following assistance and support to increase the academic achievement of all students at your child's school:

- Providing additional professional development and trainings for teachers
- Implementing a high quality curriculum and effective tutoring for all students
- Working closely with schools to identify and provide resources that help all students make learning gains

Sunshine Elementary School is providing the following assistance and support to increase the academic achievement of all students:

- Providing regular communication to parents regarding each child's skill level
- Offering an after-school tutoring program
- Using small group instruction, hands-on strategies, remediation, and data analysis to improve teaching and learning
- Working with the district, community, and families to ensure that all students receive the best education possible

What can you do?

You are very important to your child's education. We invite you to become more involved in your child's school by:

- Participating in parent involvement activities
- Becoming active in the development of the school improvement plan
- Reading to your child or encouraging your child to read everyday
- Setting a daily routine which includes time for homework
- Encouraging your child's progress in school

What are your Choice options?

Under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law, when a school has been identified as a School in Need of Improvement, parents have the following options for the 2009-2010 school year:

- You may choose to have your child remain at his/her current school.
- If your child is eligible for free or reduced-priced lunch, you may choose for your child to remain at the current school and receive free tutoring or "Supplemental Educational Services". We will send you additional information about free tutoring in the near future.
- You may choose to transfer your child to one of the schools listed below with transportation provided by the district. If demand for transportation exceeds available funds, transportation will be prioritized based on the lowest achieving of the low-income students.

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If you want to transfer your child to another public school, you may choose one of the following schools:

- Alpha Elementary Grade 'B' for 08-09 Met 97% of AYP standards for 08-09
- Beta Elementary Grade 'A' for 08-09 Met 100% of AYP standards for 08-09

For more information about your child's school or other schools in the district, please contact Mary Conage at (727)893-2988 or visit the Florida Department of Education's Website at <http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org>.

It's up to you!

If you want your child to remain at _____ Elementary School, you do not need to complete the enclosed application. You can also find more information about transferring schools at our Web site: <http://www.pcsb.org/Choice/>.

If you want your child to go to another school, please contact the Office of Student Assignment at (727)588-6210 by (add date). Their hours are 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

If you have any questions or need help with the enclosed transfer application, please contact the Office of Student Assignment at (727) 588-6000.

Sincerely,

District School Superintendent

Attachment: Application for NCLB School Choice with Transportation
Choice with Transportation - Frequently Asked Questions for Parents