



DUNDY COUNTY STRATTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

400 9th Avenue West • P.O. Box 586 • Benkelman, NE 69021-0586

"Every Day...Every Child...A Success!"



November 10, 2015

Dear Parent/Patron,

The federal education legislation, No Child Left Behind, mandates that all students must be proficient on reading and math academic standards by 2014. Schools are expected to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward that goal. The state goal for last year was to have 100% of all students in grades 3-8 & 11 be proficient on the reading and math standards. Additional information about how our school compared to other schools will be available for public viewing on the State of the Schools Report October 16, 2015 on the NDE website at: <http://www.education.ne.gov/documents/SOSR.html>.

If a school does not meet the state goal two years in a row, in the same grade level and same subject, they are identified as "In Need of Improvement." A school can get out of School Improvement Status after all subgroups meet the AYP goals for two consecutive years.

Stratton Elementary is in year 1 of Title I School Improvement Status. The following table illustrates our students' overall performance over the past two years.

	Reading		Math	
	2013-2014	2014-2015	2013-2014	2014-2015
Grades 3-6	80% overall 1 subgroup did not meet goal	81% overall Two subgroups did not meet goal	80% overall 1 subgroup did not meet goal	86% overall 2 subgroups did not meet goal

One sub-group in grades 3-6 did not meet the 2013-2014 goal in reading and math. Two subgroups did not meet the reading and math goals in 2014-2015. Stratton Elementary remains in School Improvement Status until all subgroups are able to meet the reading goal two years in a row.

The NCLB act provides the option for students who live in our attendance area to choose and enroll in another Dundy County Stratton Public schools that did meet AYP. Only those schools that have met AYP are eligible for the school choice option and in our case Benkelman Elementary also did not meet AYP, therefore public school choice is not an option.

One requirement of a school identified is to establish an Accountability Compact Team of the elementary principal, teachers, ESU staff, NDE staff and parents to develop and submit a two-year plan to the State Department of Education to meet the goal. The plan will include strategies to promote parent involvement as well as incorporate instructional strategies based on scientifically based research. The District will implement several changes intended to help raise student achievement. These include implementing a new

Mr. Jim Kent
Superintendent
308.423.2738
Fax: 308.423.2711

Mr. Adam Fette
HS Principal • Activities Director
308.423.2738
Fax: 308.423.2711

Mr. Mike Rotherham • Elementary Principal
Benkelman Elementary
308.423.2216
Fax: 308.423.2320

Stratton Elementary
308.276.2281
Fax: 308.276.2129



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reading program in grades K-6. Students will be placed in reading groups based upon their reading strengths, not just their grade level. Students who score well below their grade level will be placed in smaller, accelerated groups. It is the hope of the district that these changes, along with previous efforts will help us to meet the goal next year.

All students benefit greatly from parents being involved in many ways. Asking questions, having students read aloud, and setting aside a time and place for homework are only a few of the things that you can do. Your child's teacher can give you additional strategies to work on at home. Student achievement is a partnership between school and home and a strong partnership has been proven to be effective in helping student achievement.

Please call Mr. Rotherham if you have any questions about the AYP status or the plan to improve the academic achievement of all subgroups at the Stratton elementary.

Sincerely,

Mike Rotherham
Principal, Benkelman Elementary School

Mr. Jim Kent
Superintendent
308.423.2738
Fax: 308.423.2711

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