



RIVER ROUGE NEW TECH INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY
1460 W. Coolidge Highway, River Rouge, Michigan 48218
(313) 297-9600, ext. 4678 ~Fax: (313) 297-7322



Mr. Nick Edwards Jr.
Director

August 5, 2011

Dear River Rouge High School Parents:

Your child is a student at River Rouge High School. You know that your child is important to us and that we want to provide every opportunity for success.

Each high school in Michigan is required to test students every year using the Michigan Merit Exam. The results of these tests, as well as the graduation rate are used to determine whether our school is making adequate yearly progress (AYP).

This year, River Rouge High School is identified for improvement because it did not meet some of the state's goals/objectives as follows:

- The state's graduation rate objective is 80% and the school's graduation rate is 61.11%. This school did not meet the state's graduation objection of 80%.
- The state's goal for percentage of students assessed in reading is 95%. The school assessed 94% of its African America students. The school did not meet the state's goal by 1% for the percentage of African American students assessed.
- The state's reading objective is that 95% of the students assessed are proficient in reading, including all subgroups. The school scored as follows:
 - 70.0% of African American students were proficient in reading
 - 72.2% of Economically Disadvantaged students were proficient in reading
 - 70.3% of All Students were proficient in readingThe school did not meet the state's reading objective of 95% proficiency.
- The state's mathematic objective is that 95% of the students were assessed in mathematics, including all subgroups. The school scored as follows:
 - 93.0% of African American students were assessed in Mathematics
 - 94.0% of Economically Disadvantaged students were assessed in MathematicsThe school did not meet the state's mathematics objective of 95% students assessed.
- The state's objective for students proficient in mathematics is 95%: The school scored as follows:
 - 66.7% of all students were proficient in mathematics
 - 67.3% of African American students were proficient in mathematics
 - 62.3% of Economically Disadvantaged students were proficient in mathematics

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A comparison of our test scores to other schools and the state average is not available to the public as of the date of this letter. In order to address this problem, the school has the following planned for the 2011-2012 school year:

- Teachers are developing RTI project based learning interventions to ensure mastery of non-negotiable power standards for grades 9-12.
- Professional Development – Project Based Learning has been planned for the 2011-2012 school year for the entire teaching staff.
- Supplemental Educational Services will be offered to students in grades 9-12.
- Extended Year Learning Opportunities (i.e., summer program).
- Aligning curriculum, teacher assignments, and assessments to standards.
- Students will take quarterly assessments. The data from the assessments will be used to adjust the curriculum, lesson plans, and instructional practices.

The district chose New Tech High as its reform model. The curriculum focus is on project based learning. The district is implementing Thinking Maps as a common language in our learning communities for transferring thinking processes, integrating learning and for continuously assessing progress. The school is participating in the Statewide System of Support for High Priority Title I Schools. Through this initiative the school improvement team is rewriting the school improvement plan, aligning the curriculum and completing a comprehensive needs assessment to improve student achievement.

Parents are encouraged to participate in opportunities to learn about our curriculum, visit classrooms, meet with the principal, join the school improvement team, and assist in making decisions that further benefit their children.

As a result of AYP not met, some students will be provided the opportunity to receive free tutoring services, or be offered a choice to transfer to a surrounding district. The districts that made AYP are Lincoln Park and Melvindale. However, the comparison data for these schools is not available to the public as of the date of this letter. Students eligible to receive these services must attend River Rouge High School and be eligible for free and reduced lunch.

You may choose a high school that has made AYP for two consecutive years from Lincoln Park Public Schools or Melvindale Public Schools using the enclosed Transfer Request form. Transportation will be provided. You must complete this form by September 6, 2011 and return it to: S/D of the City of River Rouge, Attention: Dolores Reid, Executive Director, State & Federal Programs, 1460 W. Coolidge, River Rouge, Michigan 48218 for consideration.

If you decide not to transfer your child and your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, free tutoring may be available for your child. You will receive a separate letter about free tutoring. To discuss this decision further, please contact me at (313) 297-9600, #4622.

Sincerely,

Nick Edwards, Jr.

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Director

Enclosure (1)

RRHS Choice Ltr 2011

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