

July 1, 2017

Re: Continuous Improvement

Dear Parent/Guardian:

East Central Elementary is dedicated to providing all students with an excellent education so that each child can succeed in school and in life. To ensure your child's success, we have set high standards that are reflected in what is taught in our classrooms. In the coming school year we will look at multiple assessment measures that indicate how our school is succeeding. This will ensure that we reach our goal of all children succeeding in school and in life.

East Central Elementary has been designated Priority School under the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This is the result of the school being among the 25 percent of Title I schools with the lowest performance on the state's Multiple Measurement Rating (MMR), which measures school performance on student proficiency, academic growth, achievement gap reduction and, for high schools, graduation rates.

Under ESEA, Continuous Improvement Schools must use student performance data to undergo a needs assessment. A needs assessment is a systematic process whereby we analyze school data in order to make decisions on how to improve the school. We undertake that process in the spring, and will use the results of the needs assessment to create a school improvement plan aimed at helping all students reach their full potential. In order to accomplish this important work, we will put together an improvement team which includes a variety of stakeholders, including parents. You are highly encouraged to be a member of the improvement team; if you are interested call Beth Hillerns at 320-245-2931, ext. 6167.

Families and communities will be at the center of our school improvement plan. Your engagement and support in your child's education is critical to his or her success. Contact your child's teacher(s) with how you can best support the work they are doing in the classroom. All staff email addresses and the school phone numbers are posted on our school's website. East Central Elementary will also be offering several activities for you to be engaged in your child's education.



East Central
School District 2580
61085 State Hwy. 23
Finlayson, MN 55735

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**Your future.
Our focus.**

September – Open house
October – Title I Lunch
November – Student of the Month & Conferences
December – Holiday Program
January – Student of the Month
February – I love to Read Activities
March – Student of the Month
April – Conferences, Science Fair, Title I Fun Night
May – Student of the Month, Field day, Talent show

We know not all parents can come to every event but you can still be engaged and support your child's education through steps like providing a quiet place for your child to do homework or read, limiting screen time, and talking with your student about school. Also, remember that students between 5-12 years old need 10-12 hours of sleep each night; adolescents need 10 hours of sleep.

We are looking forward to a great year. East Central Elementary will have its annual meeting to inform parents about our Title I program and revise the parent involvement plan. This meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. in the Community Board Room.

You can also be involved by volunteering at the school or participating on one of the school improvement committees. Please contact the school at 320-245-2931, ext. 6400.

Sincerely,

Kristen Chryst
Elementary Principal