

**Board of Education**

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**School Administration**

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November 9, 2015

Dear Parent/Patron,

The federal education legislation, No Child Left Behind (NCLB), mandates that all students must be proficient on reading and math state academic standards by 2014. Schools are expected to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward that goal. The NCLB 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 is available for public viewing on the State of the Schools Report on the NDE website at: <http://www.education.ne.gov/documents/SOSR.html>.

If a school or building 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. Since the high school building does not have a Federal Title I program like our elementary, we are not required to send notice to families families.

Osmond Elementary is in year 1 of Title I School Improvement Status based on our Reading and Math scores. The following table illustrates our students' overall performance over the past two years. We are including our Writing scores also, as a courtesy to our parents.

	Reading Grades 3-6		Math Grades 3-6		Writing – Grade 4 only	
School year	2013-2014	2014-2015	2013-2014	2014-2015	2013-2014	2014-2015
Osmond Elementary	90 % overall	87 % overall	86 % overall	84 % overall	No Data	83 % overall
State of Nebraska	78.77% overall	82.25% overall	76.56% overall	77.18% overall	69.61% overall	71.33% overall

Our grades 3-6 did not meet the 2013-2014 or the 2014-2015 100% proficient goals in reading and math. As a result of this, Osmond Elementary remains in School Improvement Status until we are able to meet the reading and math goals two years in a row.

The No Child Left Behind Act requires each school building identified for Title I School Improvement to offer Public School Choice to all students who attend the identified school. Our students do not have another choice of elementary schools at the same grade level within our district and as a result there is no transfer option available to our students.

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



*Go Tigers!!!*



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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. While our Reading and Math scores are still quite high and stronger than the state's average, the District will implement changes intended to help raise student achievement. These include working with data from testing scores and screenings to identify struggling readers and students having math difficulties at an early age. The school will be working to develop more prescriptive interventions to address low level skills and help students overcome reading and math difficulties. The elementary will continue to progress monitor and evaluate the results and effectiveness of the interventions used in reading, as well as in math. 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. Brown if you have any questions about the AYP status or the plan to improve the academic achievement of all subgroups at the school.

Sincerely,

Mr. Michael T. Brown  
K-12 Principal  
Osmond Community Schools



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