

August 9, 2011

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year. This letter details our school's progress toward state reading and math goals and reviews options available to some students.

Each year, all schools are required to reach goals in reading, math, and language arts, as well as goals for participation on the tests. The results of assessments are used to determine whether our school is making adequate yearly progress (AYP). Buhl Middle School has been identified by the Idaho State Department of Education as a school in School improvement year 5. This means that we **did not meet all targets for the first time in 5 years. Buhl Middle School made great gains, but needs to meet in all areas for two consecutive years.** Information is provided below on how Buhl Middle School compares to the Buhl School District and the state.

	<b>% of students Proficient &amp; Advanced in Math in 2010-11 (Target 83%)</b>	<b>% of Students Proficient &amp; Advanced in Reading in 2010-11 (Target 85.6%)</b>
School	81.6%	88.3%
School District	85.8%	88.4%
State of Idaho	88.4%	92.7%

A full report is available at [www.sde.idaho.gov/reportcard](http://www.sde.idaho.gov/reportcard) and provides more information on how Buhl Middle School compares with other schools in the state. This report card is also available at your school, district office or from the Idaho State Department of Education at [www.sde.idaho.gov/reportcard](http://www.sde.idaho.gov/reportcard).

Because Buhl Middle School is in school improvement status, the law gives you the option to transfer your child to another school that is not in School Improvement status where it is possible and/or practicable. Buhl School District is not able to offer school choice because Buhl Middle School is the only school in the district. If you would like to discuss the choice of an attending another school in the area please stop in and see me. Filer and Castleford have agreed to accept students for choice if they meet there school attendance requirements. Our school is working hard with the state and district to offer better support to students in math and reading by:

- Providing Supplemental Educational Services
- Providing Summer School
- Trained teachers on Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol
- Trained teachers on Total Curriculum alignment
- Use the Response to Intervention model for identifying students weakness
- Provide instructional coach for math and reading
- Selected new math texts during the 2009-10 school year
- Mentoring for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year teachers

There are many ways that you can be involved in helping us to address the issues around school improvement. Some of those include:

- Volunteer in your child's school
- Work with students at home to improve learning
- Work with local parent organizations

Your child may also be eligible to participate in a free after-school tutoring program called Supplemental Educational Services (SES). Eligible students are those from low-income families. If your child is eligible, you will receive more information by mail in September.

Sincerely,

Mr. Ronald Anthony  
Principal  
Federal Programs Director