



Hillsboro Community  
Unit School District #3

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**David E. Powell, Superintendent**

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July 28, 2011

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

Hillsboro CUSD #3 is committed to providing a high-quality educational program for your child. We are working hard to provide programs to help all students succeed in our school district. There are many positive achievements occurring at Beckemeyer Elementary School. The majority of our students are meeting the high academic standards set by the State of Illinois and Hillsboro CUSD #3. However, a small percentage of students struggle when it comes to formal assessments. No Child Left Behind (NCLB) mandates that each parent be notified in writing of this situation. The information contained in this letter follows federal and state mandates.

Your child attends Beckemeyer Elementary School which receives federal Title I funds. These funds provide help for identified Title I students to meet state achievement standards. In the 2010-11 school year, the school did not meet the adequate yearly progress (AYP) targets set by the State of Illinois. Your child's school is in school improvement status which means the school has failed to make adequate yearly progress for 2 consecutive years in the same subject and is required to offer public school choice.

Currently, the State of Illinois assesses all students in grades 3-8 using the Illinois State Achievement Test or ISAT. The students are tested in the areas of Math, Reading and Science (grades 4 & 7 only). For the purposes of determining if a school made AYP, only Math and Reading results are used. In each of these academic areas, benchmarks have been determined by the State of Illinois assigning students' raw scores into one of four levels. The levels are Academic Warning (W), Below Standards (B), Meets Standards (M), and Exceeds Standards (E). In 2011, the target for the percentage of students in the "meets or exceeds" categories was raised to 85% in both Math and Reading. Your child's school has been identified because it failed to meet that 85% target in Reading.

The school is working to improve the school's academic program by reviewing and revising curriculum, adopting The New Common Core Standards in math for the 2011-12 school year, changing our Targeted Assistance Title I Reading program to a Schoolwide program, providing professional development to staff, and revising district/school improvement plans. The District and the State Board of Education are working with your child's school to help

improve the academic standards of the school. This is being accomplished by providing technical assistance to the teachers and administrators within your child's school.

Our district's 2010 report card and the most recent AYP status report for your school show how your child's school compares to other schools in our district and state. These reports are available on our Web site [www.hillsboroschools.net](http://www.hillsboroschools.net), at your child's school, and at the school district office.

We would like to solicit your input as we work to improve our achievement on the Illinois Student Achievement Test. If you wish to volunteer on the school's Parent Advisory Committee which assists in various school improvement activities, please contact Mr. Frailey at 532-6994 or [zfrailey@hillsboroschools.net](mailto:zfrailey@hillsboroschools.net).

The *No Child Left Behind Act* provides you, as a parent, the option to transfer your child to another public school within the district with transportation provided by the district. However, at this time we do not have a school within the district to which your child can transfer. We have contacted neighboring districts to request that they provide us with a school(s) we can offer you as an option. No school district has agreed to do so this school year.

Please call Kyle M. Hacke at 532-2942, if you have any questions about this information.

Sincerely,

David E. Powell, Superintendent