

# Bangor Area High School

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## Notice of Adequate Yearly Progress Please Read: Important Information Affecting Your Child

August 23, 2010

Dear High School Parent(s) or Guardian(s),

We would like to make you aware of the choices and resources available to you based on the progress of your child's school under the guidelines of No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

### *What are the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)?*

The PSSA is an annual exam given to Pennsylvania students at various grade levels to measure their academic progress. The state uses the PSSA to determine whether Bangor Area School District and each of our schools are making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). AYP is determined by how successful districts and schools are in meeting state goals for attendance, graduation rates, test participation and academic progress.

To make AYP, a school must meet the state goals for the student body as a whole as well for each subgroup of students. A subgroup consists of 40 or more students in a school in the following categories: ethnicity, socio-economic status, Individual Education Plan (IEP) – Special Education, and English Language Learner (ELL) status. The number of subgroups that a school has determines the number of "targets" that it must meet to make AYP. For the 2008-2009 and the 2009-2010 school year, students attending the Bangor Area School District made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in Reading and Mathematics for participation and performance as well as attendance and graduation rates.

Our High School met 16 out of 17 AYP targets for 2010. Below are highlights of reading and mathematics achievements:

#### **Reading**

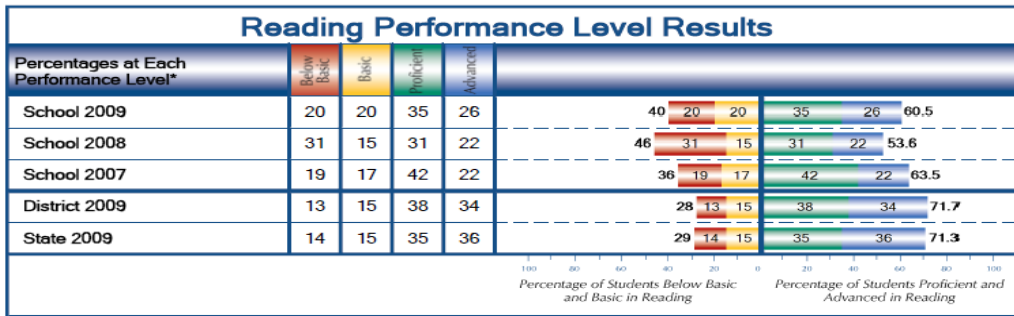
- In Grade 11 the percentage of students scoring at proficient or advanced increased from 60.6% in 2009 to 71.5% in 2010.

#### **Mathematics**

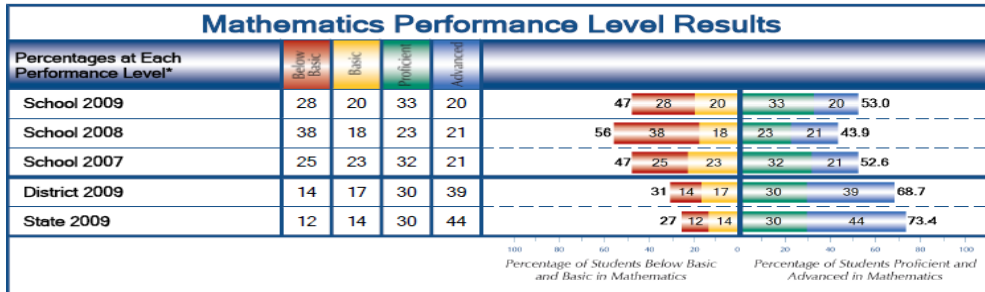
- In Grade 11 the percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced increased from 53.1% in 2009 to 68.2% in 2010.

However, based on the performance of one subgroup, The High School has been identified in AYP School Improvement by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). The High School's PSSA results indicate that the school did not meet the state's academic achievement targets, based on 2009-2010 PSSA results.

<u>Reading</u>	<u>Proficient/Adv</u>	<u>State Target</u>
IEP-Special Education	14.9 %	<b>63%</b>



In 2009, 60.5% of the students at BANGOR AREA SHS met or exceeded proficiency in Reading. Comparatively, 71.7% of the students in BANGOR AREA SD and 71.3% of the students in Pennsylvania met or exceeded proficiency in Reading. Use the 2007 and 2008 data provided to determine your school's three-year progress in Reading.



In 2009, 53.0% of the students at BANGOR AREA SHS met or exceeded proficiency in Mathematics. Comparatively, 68.7% of the students in BANGOR AREA SD and 73.4% of the students in Pennsylvania met or exceeded proficiency in Mathematics. Use the 2007 and 2008 data provided to determine your school's three-year progress in Mathematics.

Research shows that school improvement plans that are faithfully implemented have the greatest impact on student achievement. Teachers play the key role in plan effectiveness and collective, rather than individual efforts pay bigger dividends. Parent Involvement increases student motivation which makes collaboration is essential.

An effective school improvement plan must be monitored. Monitoring ensures plans are being implemented. The High School will be monitoring their school improvement plan in the following ways:

- Administrative Learning Walks
- Lesson Plans
- 4Sight
- Curriculum-based Measures
- Survey Data
- IEP Progress Monitoring Data
- Staff Development Evaluations
- Student Feedback
- Community Feedback
- Student Attendance Data
- Student Discipline Data

#### **Action Plan for Improving Student Achievement**

As a result of an in depth needs assessment, The High School has identified the following areas as key strategies for instructional improvement:

- Equitable access to rigorous, high level programs
- Differentiation
- Data Driven Continuous Improvement
- Accelerated Intervention
- Co-teaching

As outlined in our school improvement plan, the school district and the Pennsylvania Department of Education will be offering our High School assistance to implement these strategies by providing Distinguished Educators and assistance from Intermediate Unit 20.

**Explanation of School Choice Option**

According to NCLB, The High School must offer students the choice to transfer to another school in the district not in School Improvement however; Our High School does not have another school building within the district available to offer the choice to transfer.

**How parents and Families Can Help Improve Student Achievement**

Parent support is essential to the success of the High School. Communicating with your child's teachers, making sure your child attends school regularly, helping your child with homework, monitoring your child's television time, volunteering in the classroom, and participating in school decision-making are important.

The High School will have a meeting to develop our school parent compact and to review parent rights under Title I. This meeting is currently scheduled for December 15, 2010 more information will be available closer to the date.

The many successes at the High School cannot be measured in one test and we appreciate your continued support. The High School has implemented Strategies of Success by establishing Slater Success Teams which consist of the Principal, Assistant Principals and teachers. They review extensive data sources.

**Slater Success Teams**

*Data Analysis Team*

*Student Success Team*

*School Improvement Team*

*Faculty Cabinet*

*Positive Behavior Support Team*

*Professional Learning Communities*

We must admit, however, that if ALL of our students are not doing well, we are not as good as we can be. That is our challenge, our goal and our commitment. Please continue to work with us to make sure that we achieve success for every student.

Sincerely,

Mr. Robert Vlasaty  
High School Principal