

August 13, 2012

San Antonio School for Inquiry and Creativity

TO PARENTS OF STUDENTS ATTENDING San Antonio School for Inquiry and Creativity:

Under the accountability provisions in the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act (P.L. 107-110), all public school campuses and districts are evaluated annually for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Campuses and districts are required to meet AYP criteria on three measures: Reading/Language Arts, Mathematics, and either Graduation Rate (for high schools and districts) or Attendance Rate (for elementary and middle/junior high schools).

On August 8, 2012, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) notified the San Antonio School for Inquiry and Creativity (hereafter referenced as the Local Education Agency or LEA) that San Antonio School for Inquiry and Creativity will be subject to Stage 1 school improvement requirements during the 2012-2013 school year for not meeting AYP in reading for two or more consecutive years. You may read about the AYP definition on the TEA's website at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/ayp/>. The TEA's website at http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index4.aspx?id=4459&menu_id=798 describes the requirements for schools identified in the School Improvement Program (SIP).

The NCLB Act requires the LEA to notify you of the campus' SIP status and to provide you with the following information. Please be advised that the campus will have the opportunity to appeal this school improvement designation later this fall. However, the requirements described in this letter must be implemented for the entire school year, regardless of the outcome of the appeal.

As the parent or guardian of a student attending a campus identified for school improvement, you have the option to request a transfer of your child to another public school within the LEA that is not identified for school improvement. However, this campus is not able to offer school choice because San Antonio School is a Charter school and therefore is already a school of choice.

In lieu of not being able to offer school choice, the campus will offer the following additional educational activities: Before and after school tutoring as well as individualized reading enrichment activities targeting each student's needs.

The San Antonio School for Inquiry and Creativity will be implementing the following activities to address the reasons the campus has been identified for school improvement: Continue with scientific research based initiatives of successful schools such as Classroom Data Centers that will provide up to date information on student progress, as well as with intensive and regular staff professional development in Reading and brain compatibility research . In addition, the LEA will provide the following assistance to the campus to support improvement efforts at a system level: Provide staff with meaningful professional development to enable them to analyze test and classroom data, establish criteria for staff training on school initiatives and activities shown by research to increase parental involvement in their children's education, collect and disseminate best practices in the classroom, implementation of C-Scope, use technology applications such as teacher blogs for students to be prepared for class and to review classes as homework, strictly monitor attendance, provide creative out-of-school educational experiences with related intensive reading and writing assignments, as well as frequent classroom reading and writing across the disciplines.

You may become involved in addressing the reasons the campus is identified for improvement by assisting in the following ways: Participate in parent involvement activities that assist you in learning how to increase your child's achievement level and attend parent-teacher conferences .

A campus identified in Stage 2 school improvement, or above, is required to offer Supplemental Educational Services (SES), which is free tutoring, to eligible students from low-income families. If your student is eligible for SES, you will receive additional detailed information about these services. Information on SES is available at <http://www.sirctexas.net/>.

If you have questions concerning this letter or require paper copies of the material referenced in the web sites, please contact Dr. De Leon at 210-738-0022 or via email at debdeleon@aol.com.

Sincerely,

Dr Debbie De Leon