

July 29, 2011

Dear Parent:

Celina K-8 School has been identified by the Tennessee Department of Education as a “High Priority” school in School Improvement I. This means that students have not met state and federal goals in *the subgroup Economically Disadvantaged in Math for two straight years*. Results of spring test scores indicate that one of three elementary schools in our system met state and federal goals. Thirty percent of the state’s elementary and middle school students scored proficient to advanced in math and 44.5% scored proficient to advanced in reading. At the high school level, 56.7% of the state’s students scored proficient to advanced in mathematics (Algebra I) and 39.4% scored proficient to advanced in reading (English II). The state’s graduation rate is 86.1%.

Because *Celina K-8* is a Title I high priority school, your child is eligible to transfer to another public school in the district. You may choose to transfer your child to one of the following schools:

<i>Choice School</i>	<i>% of Students Proficient & Advanced in Math in 2010-2011 (Target 40%)</i>	<i>% of Students Proficient & Advanced in Reading in 2010-2011 (Target 49%)</i>	<i>Attendance Rate in 2010-2011 (Target 93%)</i>
Maple Grove Elem.	30	42	94.75 %
Hermitage Springs	30	45	97.59 %

If you choose to transfer your child, please be aware of the following:

- The district will provide or pay for transportation to and from your child’s Choice School as long as the *Celina K-8 School* is a high priority school identified for improvement. If the *Celina K-8 School* meets achievement goals for two straight years, it will no longer be a high priority school.
- Your child will be allowed to remain at the new school until he/she completes the highest grade.
- If funds are not available for all students to be transported, priority for transportation will be given to lowest achieving students from low-income families.
- If requests for a Choice School exceed that school’s capacity, priority for first choice will be given to lowest achieving students from low-income families.

Celina K-8 School is working hard with the state and district to increase student achievement in math and reading by *increasing class time for math and reading/LA to 90 minutes daily for each, providing personnel with 9-12 math and English endorsements, and providing reading and math interventions for at-risk students*. We encourage you to help by *reinforcing skills at home and sending your students to before and after school tutoring when needed*.

If you would like for your child to transfer, you must complete the attached form and return it no later than *August 12, 2011* either by mail to the Clay County Schools, P.O. Box 469, Celina, TN 38551, or drop it off at the Central Office in the old *Celina High School* building. The Director of Schools will notify you by mail or phone call to provide transportation information and the date that your child may start attending the Choice School. Please contact Betsy Holtam at 243-5508 if you have questions or need more information.

If you decide not to transfer your child, he/she may be eligible to participate in a free after-school tutoring program called Supplemental Educational Services (SES). Eligible students are those from low-income families.

Sincerely,

Donnie Cherry, Director
Clay County Schools

School Choice Request Form
2011-2012

Return by mail or deliver to the Clay County Schools Central Office no later than August 12, 2011.

Student's Name _____

Student's Home Address _____

School Attending Now _____

I would like to take advantage of the Public School Choice option for my child.

Select a first and second choice from schools named in the letter. If you have only one preference, list only one school.

1st Choice: _____ (*Insert name of school.*)

2nd Choice: _____ (*Insert name of school.*)

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Remember: The Director of Schools will notify you when the choice option will take effect and when your child may start attending the Choice School. Please contact Betsy Holtam at 243-5508, if you have questions or need additional information.

