

October 9, 2009

Dear Family of a Park Forest Middle Student:

The East Baton Rouge Parish School System (EBRPSS) has received new information from the Louisiana Department of Education about the performance of Park Forest Middle School during the 2008-2009 school year.

1. Why was Park Forest Middle School identified as a “school in need of improvement,” and how does it compare to other schools in East Baton Rouge Parish and in the rest of Louisiana?

Park Forest Middle School was identified as a school in need of improvement because it failed to meet performance goals established by the state in the areas of standardized tests, attendance and dropout rates. The school received a 2009 School Improvement identification of School Improvement Level 1 (SI 1).

The Louisiana Department of Education maintains the accountability information for all schools in East Baton Rouge Parish and the state of Louisiana. The information may be accessed via the Internet at <http://www.louisianaschools.net>. You also may contact the EBRPSS Accountability Office for more information at (225) 226-7625.

2. What is Park Forest Middle School doing to address the problem of low achievement, and what is the School System and the state doing to help them address the problem?

The administration is evaluating all areas of instruction aggressively at Park Forest Middle School. This evaluation includes interviews and surveys of students, teachers and parents to determine what areas need to be improved. The survey information will be used to prepare a proactive School Improvement Plan. This plan requires classroom instruction and teacher training that focuses on improving the areas in which students at Park Forest Middle School are having difficulty. In the meantime, the school is exploring tutoring, mentoring and other types of assistance to improve student achievement.

3. How can I become involved in addressing the problems that caused Park Forest Middle School to be identified as a school in need of improvement?

Parents are encouraged to arrange a private conference with their child's teachers to discuss ways to improve his or her academic performance. They also are invited to become members of the School Improvement Team at Park Forest Middle School. The School Improvement Team is composed of the principal, teachers and parents and works to improve the education and overall learning experience of all students at Park Forest Middle School. Even if a family member does not serve as a member of the School Improvement Team, he or she is encouraged to attend meetings to discuss possible improvements in any area of instruction.

4. Is my child eligible for School Choice?

The School Choice option for Park Forest Middle School was offered at the beginning of this school year. Parental requests for School Choice were accepted through August 28, 2009 and all transfers were completed by September 25, 2009. Should the school be identified for corrective action again, EBRPSS will offer School Choice at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year.

5. Is my child eligible for free tutoring (Supplemental Educational Services)?

Students at Park Forest Middle School may be eligible to receive extra academic assistance through a program known as **Supplemental Educational Services (SES)**. These services are offered free of charge and are intended to help your child improve his or her academic performance. Please call Diane Helire at (225) 922-5514 if you have questions about the SES program or would like help in choosing a provider.

Additional Questions?

If you have any further questions about Park Forest Middle School, you may contact your child's school or the EBRPSS Accountability Office for additional information:

Park Forest Middle School
3760 Aletha Drive
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70814
Phone: (225) 275-6650
Fax: (225) 275-3058

Contact: Lizabeth Frischhertz
EBRPSS Accountability Office
Phone: (225) 922-5400 or (225) 226-7625
Fax: (225) 226-7605
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Sincerely,



| John Dilworth, Superintendent