



Catherine M. Turner • Director of Federal Projects

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Dear Parents:

The SC Department of Education (SDE) has published the **School and District Improvement Ratings** for the upcoming school year. Identification for improvement means a district and a school have not met the state's definition of adequate yearly progress (AYP) for at least two years consecutively. AYP is based on meeting annual academic and attendance standards in ELA and math. Colleton County School District is identified in the **Corrective Action** stage of improvement because the district has not met expected targets (AYP) for three or more years. Based on information contained in this publication, the school district met 24 AYP targets out of 29. The subgroups that did not meet expected progress in English/language arts and math are minority students, disabled students, and students receiving free and reduced-priced lunches. The Corrective Action classification of Colleton County School District specifically targets Title One schools and has resulted in the adoption and implementation of a state approved curriculum for grades PK – 8th grade and frequent monitoring of teacher and student performance at all grade levels.

The goals of Title One are to improve student achievement and ensure school and district improvement. When a school has been identified for improvement, the federal *No Child Left Behind* legislation requires that the district and school inform parents of their opportunity to request transfer to another school within the school district that has not been identified for improvement. The 2010-2011 ratings for the Title One schools, the number of targets each school met, and the transfer options are listed below:

Title One School	2010-11 Improvement Rating	Made AYP?	Eligible for Choice transfer?	Targets	Transfer Options
Bells Elementary (BES)	Restructuring-DELAY	YES	YES	17 out of 17	Kindergarten: BSECC or SC Connections Academy Grades 1-5: FHE or SC Connections Academy
Black St. Early Childhood Center (BSECC)	Not identified for improvement	NO	NO	11 out of 13	No Choice transfer options
Cottageville Elementary (CES)	Corrective Action	NO	YES	19 out of 21	Kindergarten: BSECC or SC Connections Academy Grades 1-5: FHE or SC Connections Academy
Forest Hills Elementary (FHE)	Not identified for improvement	YES	NO	21 out of 21	No Choice transfer options
Hendersonville Elementary (HES)	Corrective Action	NO	YES	20 out of 21	Kindergarten: BSECC or SC Connections Academy Grades 1-5: FHE or SC Connections Academy
Northside Elementary	Restructuring	NO	YES	19 out of 21	Kindergarten: BSECC or SC Connections Academy Grades 1-5: FHE or SC Connections Academy
Colleton Middle	Restructuring	NO	YES	17 out of 21	RMS or SC Connections Academy
Forest Circle Middle	Restructuring	NO	YES	19 out of 21	RMS or SC Connections Academy
Ruffin Middle	Not identified for improvement	YES	NO	17 out of 17	No Choice transfer options

Forest Hills Elementary made AYP and can serve as an elementary school of choice for students in grades 1-5 and Black Street Early Childhood Center will serve as the school of choice for kindergartners. Parents of middle school students have Ruffin Middle as an option for transfer because this school made AYP. Transportation to these schools will be provided by the school district. The other option for parents is to transfer their child to a virtual (online) school. South Carolina Connections Academy is a virtual school serving students in grades K-12. This virtual school is the only one that responded to our district and indicated of their willingness to accept Colleton students. Should this option be a parent's selection, the child would be withdrawn from Colleton County School District and transferred to the South Carolina Charter School District. Once a child is transferred to the virtual school and the Charter School District, the student would then access their school via the internet from home. Students would require, in most cases, high speed internet access and the computer hardware to attend the virtual school. Parents may find out more information about SC Connections Academy by visiting the school's website: www.connectionsacademy.com.

Please be aware that students on free or reduced lunch prices whose parents elect not to transfer their children out of schools identified for improvement will receive the opportunity to sign up early next school year for Supplemental Educational Services (SES), free tutoring. More information about the free tutoring services will be provided to parents early in the fall.

Parents who want to transfer their child may submit a Choice application in one of several ways: drop off or mail the application to your child's school, or applications may be mailed to the following address: Title I Office, 213 N. Jefferies Blvd., Walterboro, SC 29488. Applications can be faxed to the Title One Office at 843-782-3865. Additional Choice applications will also be available at your child's home school, at the Title I Office located at 200B Jefferies Blvd., and on the school district's website: www.colletonsd.org. **Applications for transfer must be completed and received by 4 P.M., Wednesday, August 18, 2010, to qualify for Choice Transfer for the 2010-2011 school year.** If parents are requesting transfer for more than one child, **please submit one application per student.** Applications that do not meet the deadline for submission may not be considered for Choice Transfer for the 2010-11 school year.

For more information, please contact the Title I Office at 843-782-4522.

Sincerely,

Catherine Turner, Title I Coordinator