



# Illinois State Board of Education

100 North First Street • Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001  
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Rod Blagojevich  
Governor

Jesse H. Ruiz  
Chairman

Dr. Randy J. Dunn  
State Superintendent of Education

September 28, 2005

Dear Superintendent/Parent:

The *No Child Left Behind* Act of 2001 (*NCLB*) requires notification to schools and districts before the beginning of school with the final determination for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

Each district received their final 2005 AYP Status Reports for school(s) and district through the IWAS system in the summer of 2005. The following criteria were used to determine AYP:

1. 95% participation rate in state assessments for all students and for each subgroup of (45) for both reading and mathematics.
2. 47.5% target must be met for the overall group for percent meeting and exceeding standards in reading and mathematics and reach targets for subgroups (47.5% in 2005) while using a 95% confidence interval *or* meet Safe Harbor requirements. Safe Harbor is an alternative method to meet subgroup minimum targets.
3. For schools and districts not making AYP because of the IEP subgroup *only*, 14% was added to the percent of students meeting and exceeding state standards for academic performance. This means that in order for a school or district to meet the current 2005, 47.5% performance threshold, the students with disabilities subgroup must have at least 33.5% meeting and exceeding state standards in 2005 *and* be the only subgroup not making AYP.
4. Other indicators for 2005:
  - a. 89% attendance rate for elementary and middle schools
  - b. 67% graduation rate for high schools

Two consecutive years of meeting AYP criteria are required for a school or district to be removed from School or District Improvement Status.

The State Board of Education will continue to work with districts to increase student achievement in the identified school(s) and district(s). Should you have questions regarding this matter, please contact Andy Metcalf, Principal Consultant, Data Analysis and Progress Reporting Division at 217/782-3950.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna J. Luallen".

Donna J. Luallen  
Division Administrator  
Accountability Division