



~ 102 – 1st St. W / Bemidji, MN 56601 ~ Phone: (218) 444-3130 ~ email: excel@vehs.org

Web site: <http://vehs.org>

August 17, 2009

Dear Parent / Guardian of student(s) attending Voyageurs Expeditionary High School

The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires that all schools in the nation make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward achieving the goal of all students being proficient in reading and math. As you may be aware, Voyageurs Expeditionary High School has been designated as a school in *Need of Improvement 2.1* due to not making AYP in Math for the past 3 years.

Did our students meet the proficiency targets set by the State in reading and math?

The following table provides the MCAII, attendance, and graduation results for all groups of students:

Student Group	Math Yes or No	Reading Yes or No	Attendance Yes or No	Graduation Rate Yes or No
All students	No	Yes	No	Yes
American Indian	No	Yes		Yes
Asian	No	Yes		Yes
Black	No	Yes		Yes
ELL	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Free and Reduced-Price Lunch	No	Yes		Yes
Hispanic	No	Yes		Yes
Special Education	No	Yes		Yes
White	No	Yes	No	Yes

As you can see, we did not make AYP in Math for All Students. While we did show a slight improvement in Math during the 2008-2009 school year, it was not enough to affect our status of not making Adequate Yearly Progress.

We are working together to ensure that all students receive the best education possible. The staff at Voyageurs has already planned to make improvements in the area of Math by implementing the following actions:

- ✓ *By replacing the previous math teacher with a new Math teacher who has more teaching experience working with students who have difficulties in Math and also working with diverse populations.*
- ✓ *By implementing a new method of teaching Math through the use of pre-assessments to prescribe and individualized math curriculum for all of our students based on their needs.*
- ✓ *By providing small group instruction in Math in place of large group instruction for all*
- ✓ *By providing more options for students to receive Math instruction including small group teacher led, Technology based instruction, more Math instructional time each day and after school instructional opportunities.*

What does this mean for your child?

X Parental Option 1: Transfer to another Public School

Since Voyageurs is a single site school, transferring your student to another school within the district is not possible, but you may choose to transfer your child to another public school in your district of residence, such as Bemidji High School.

X Parental Option 2: Supplemental Educational Services (SES)

Your second option is to choose, at no cost to you, to have your child receive Supplemental Educational Services (SES), free tutoring. Be aware that you might need to provide transportation for your child to and from tutoring sessions. You may choose a tutoring provider from the enclosed list of approved providers.

If you choose to transfer your child to a different school, your child is no longer eligible to receive SES.

Parental support is essential to the success of Voyageurs Expeditionary High School and the school parent involvement plan will be updated this fall. If you are interested in providing input on this plan or the school improvement plan, please call Julie Johnson-Willborg. In addition, Voyageurs will have its annual meeting to inform parents about our Title I program, revise the parent involvement plan, parent/teacher compact and review parent rights under Title I. This meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. at Voyageurs Expeditionary High School. You can also be involved, by volunteering at the school or participating on one of the school improvement committees. Please contact the school at 218-444-3130.

Sincerely,

Julie Johnson-Willborg
Director

Your Choices

Your child's school has been identified as a school in need of improvement. Therefore, you have the right to request that your child be transferred to a school which has **not** been identified as a school in need of improvement. District schools that have not been identified as schools in need of improvement and are available to receive transfers: **None within the Voyageurs district; you may choose to transfer your child to their respective resident district school**

School name	Achievement level of students and other school information	Contact information

My child attends _____ . I wish to transfer my child to

Name of school your child attends

Name of school from the list above

In order to consider your request, this form must be returned by _____ to:

Date

contact person

locations

If you have questions please contact: _____

name/phone

Student's Name _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Parent Signature

Date

(Note: If you do not wish to transfer your child, you may simply discard this form.)

Free Supplemental Educational Services (SES)

Voyageurs Expeditionary High School

Yes , I am interested in having my student participate in supplemental educational services (tutoring).

Please review the attached information sheets on each approved supplemental services provider. Be aware that you might need to provide transportation for your child to and from tutoring sessions.

For a complete list of SES providers, visit:

http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/Academic_Excellence/School_Choice/Supplemental_Education_Services/index.html

A list of the district's SES providers is enclosed.

First Choice:

Name of provider: _____

Description of services: _____

Location: _____

Second Choice:

Name of provider: _____

Description of services: _____

Location: _____

Would you like assistance in choosing a provider? **Yes** **No**

If you have questions, you may contact: Julie Johnson-Willborg, Director

PLEASE NOTE: Eligible students are all students from low-income families who attend Title I schools that are in their second year of school improvement, in corrective action, or in restructuring. If all eligible students who request supplemental educational services cannot be served, the school will have to serve students at the lowest level of academic achievement as a first priority.

Please return this form to our school by September 15, 2009.

Student's Name _____

Grade _____

Parent Signature: _____