



Firth School District # 59
 Fall 2010

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year. This letter details our school’s progress toward state reading and math goals and reviews options available to some students.

Each year, all schools are required to reach goals in reading, math, and language arts as well as goals for participation on the tests. The results of assessments are used to determine whether our school is making adequate yearly progress (AYP). Firth Middle School has been identified by the Idaho State Department of Education as a school in School Improvement even though FMS achieved all of its AYP goals. Since this is the first year FMS has made all the AYP goals it is still in School Improvement. Information is provided below on how Firth Middle School compares to the Firth School District and the state.

	% of students Proficient & Advanced in Math in 2009 -10 (Target 83%)	% of Students Proficient & Advanced in Reading in 2009 -10 (Target 85.6%)	<i>[Language Arts or Grad Rate] 2009-2010 (Target to meet or exceed previous year)</i>
School	90%	91.4%	81.2%
School District	89.6%	91.8%	
State of Idaho	81.5%	88.1%	

A full report is available at www.sde.idaho.gov/reportcard and provides more information on how Firth Middle School compares with other schools in the Firth School District and in the state. This report card is also available at your school, district office or from the Idaho State Department of Education at www.sde.idaho.gov/reportcard.

Because Firth Middle School is in School Improvement, the law gives you the option to transfer your child to another school that is not in school improvement where it is possible and/or practicable. Firth School District is not able to offer school choice within our district because is only one school in the district. You may transfer your child to a public virtual charter school. If you wish to transfer to a virtual school, you may contact the school directly to enroll.

Our school is working hard with the state and district to offer better support to students in math and reading by:

- Expanding reading time, small group instruction in both reading and math and professional development for teachers and other staff members.

There are many ways that you can be involved in helping us to address the issues around school improvement. Some of those include

- Help your child with homework
- Make sure your child attends school—reduce the number of absences
- Volunteer in the classroom
- Serve on a school or district wide committee

Your child may also be eligible to participate in a free afterschool tutoring program called Supplemental Educational Services (SES). Eligible students are those from low-income families. If your child is eligible, you will receive more information by the Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences— October 27 and 28 or speak with Ms. Dye during registration August 18 – 25.

Sincerely,