

## **NCLB Public School Choice Q & A's for Riverbend Elementary School**

### **When is Public School Choice offered?**

School Choice is offered when a Title I school does not meet State targets for achievement (Annual Yearly Progress, AYP) for two consecutive years and is in school improvement status. Parents/guardians are given an option to send their child to a school that is not in school in improvement status. (go to <http://www.eed.state.ak.us/> for more information)

### **Where can I find my school's Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) results?**

Specific school AYP results can be found by contacting the school's principal, on the JSD web site at <http://www.juneauschools.org/> or by calling the Juneau School District Assessment Office, 523-1727. The results are available by August for the previous school year.

### **What are the consequences of my school not making AYP?**

All Title I schools that don't make AYP are required to notify parents and form a committee to create and submit a school improvement plan to the Department of Education. Parents are highly encouraged to be part of the school improvement plan process. All Juneau schools develop school action plans, also referred to as school improvement plans.

Title I schools that don't make AYP and are in a NCLB school improvement status of Level 2 or higher have additional consequences. These schools must offer public school choice and the district must offer to pay for transportation for the students who choose to transfer. Consequently, Riverbend will provide School Choice for the coming school year.

### **My child attends a school that must offer choice. Can I pick any school I want?**

No. According to NCLB, the district decides which schools will be offered as receiving schools. The 2011-12 Riverbend receiver schools are Auke Bay and Glacier Valley Elementary Schools.

### **If I choose to transfer my student, when is the Public School Choice application due?**

School Choice applications must be submitted during the enrollment period, August 5-19, 2011. You can obtain the School Choice application from your school office and return the completed form to the school principal prior to the deadline. The school staff will fax the form to the JSD Federal Programs Coordinator on the day that it is received.

### **If I choose to transfer my student to one of the district-selected schools, how will transportation work?**

The district will provide transportation to approved students in Title I schools that are in an NCLB school improvement Level of 2 or higher. The mode of transportation provided may vary, depending on the circumstances. If you choose to transfer your student, the JSD federal programs office will notify you regarding transportation details and, in most cases, where and what time your child would access the transportation options. In many cases, the JSD cannot finalize transportation details until after the enrollment deadline.

### **Will the receiving school have all the same programs my current school has?**

The receiving school may not have the same programs as your neighborhood school. Title I schools receive extra funding and often have more staff in the area of literacy and math support. For specific information on the programs offered at each school, please see the district's Web site at <http://www.juneauschools.org/>

### **If I apply for transfer to one of the two receiving schools, is my student guaranteed a transfer to that school?**

Seats may be limited in receiving schools if the number of requests causes the total enrollment to exceed health and safety limits. The law requires that priority be given to the lowest achieving, low-income students. In that situation, if your student were not eligible for your first choice school, you would be contacted and given the option of the other school if it had seats remaining.

### **What happens with parents who move into an NCLB school choice boundary area after the August 19, 2011 application deadline?**

After August 19, staffing for our schools is complete based on student numbers and the public school choice application period must necessarily close for the first semester of the 2011-12 school year. Your school will notify you of the second enrollment period, which will occur in December 2011. Please call 523-1730 if you want to further discuss school choice options and deadlines for the second part of the school year.