



**Dr. Ed Davis – Superintendent**

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July 8, 2011

Dear Walter Bickett Elementary Parent or Guardian:

I am writing to let you know that according to the 2010-2011 student assessment results, Walter Bickett is a Title I School of Improvement for the 2011-2012 school year under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law. As such, Walter Bickett Elementary School must offer public school choice because it did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for two years in a row in math.

Walter Bickett Elementary School receives federal Title I funds designed to help students who are not achieving at grade level in high-poverty schools. As a Title I school, Walter Bickett Elementary School must make AYP or face consequences. Thirty-two out of fifty-two schools in our district made AYP for 2010-2011.

For the 2011-2012 school year, you may choose to have your child remain at Walter Bickett Elementary School or you may enroll your child in another school, designated by the district, with transportation provided. More information on each of these options is below.

### **Remain at Walter Bickett Elementary School**

Staff members at Walter Bickett Elementary School have a relationship with your child and want to continue serving your child through grade five. If you want your child to remain at Walter Bickett Elementary School, you don't need to take any additional action.

The many successes at Walter Bickett Elementary School cannot be measured in one test and we appreciate your past and continued support. I am pleased that our school has increased our parent involvement, and that our students have shown growth by using the Leveled Literacy Intervention strategies.

However, we are concerned about the academic progress of all of our students. We have identified the following instructional strategies in which to focus, with district and state assistance: continued emphasis on number sense and collaborative problem solving, First in Math integration with the math curriculum, piloting teachers using math workshop structure for math instruction, continue to use small group instruction in math, utilizing our UCPS math curriculum coordinators to support math instruction.

We welcome your involvement at Walter Bickett Elementary School. There are many ways to participate including becoming a member of the parent association, offering your input to the School Improvement Team, volunteering, attending parent conferences with your child's teacher(s), making sure that your child is prepared and attends school each day, and monitoring your child's homework and class grades.

Walter Bickett Elementary will have its annual meeting to develop our parent involvement policy and to review parent rights under Title I and other information on Tuesday, August 9, 2011 from 6:30-7:30 at Walter Bickett Elementary School. The Title I district-wide parent involvement policy will be reviewed this fall and parents are invited to be a part of that review process.

### **Enroll your child in another designated school**

You may request a transfer for your child to attend one of the following designated schools:

(1) Indian Trail Elementary or (2) Wesley Chapel Elementary. Enclosed is more information on these schools. For even more information, you can go to [www.ncreportcards.org/src/on](http://www.ncreportcards.org/src/on) the Web. The district selected your transfer options and based that decision on the total school program and the proximity to your child's home school.

Please complete and return a "Request for a School Transfer" form (enclosed) for each child requesting a transfer by July 21 and return to your child's school. The district will respond with a phone call by July 22 and follow up with written notice regarding your child's school assignment and transportation availability. You will then have the opportunity to communicate whether you accept the approved choice or want your child to remain at Walter Bickett Elementary School. If a requested transfer is approved your child will be allowed to attend the choice school through the fifth grade. **When Walter Bickett Elementary School exits school improvement your child may stay at the choice school but you must provide your own transportation. Also, your child must attend the middle school in your attendance area.** If the request for transfers exceeds available funding; priority must be given to the lowest-achieving students from low-income families.

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If you are a parent of an exceptional child, please contact Lori Cauthen, Director of Exceptional Children at 704-704-283-3596 or if you are the parent of a second language student, please contact Al Roldan, ESL Case Manager at 704-289-5460 for the available public school choices that best meet the needs of your child. (Educational records are confidential and access is limited to school officials having a genuine need to know.)

If you have questions about these options, please call Jane McNeely-Sowell, Director of Federal Programs at 704-296-0823 or [jane.mcneely-sowell@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:jane.mcneely-sowell@ucps.k12.nc.us), or go to [www.ncpublicschools.org/nclb](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/nclb) on the Web for more information.

We are looking forward to a year of educational success and continuous improvement for all of our students. Thank you for continuing to work with us to make sure our schools places where every student can achieve success.

Sincerely,  
Theresa Benson  
Principal

c. Superintendent, Title I Director, Public Information Officer

Enclosures: NC School Report Card Snapshots for Walter Bickett Elementary, Indian Trail Elementary, Wesley Chapel Elementary; School Transfer Form; Public School Choice Fact Sheet

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