

## For Immediate Release

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### Meeting Federal No Child Left Behind Standards in Tooele County School District

The *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* is a federal initiative intended to hold schools accountable for student achievement. *NCLB* sanctions apply specifically to economically disadvantaged schools; however, the accountability has been applied throughout all schools in Tooele County School District.

*NCLB* requires every school to assess at least 95% of its students annually in language arts and mathematics. The act requires student testing, publishing the assessment results, and penalizing low performing Title I schools. By 2014 the goal of *NCLB* requires all students to achieve 100% proficiency in language arts and mathematics.

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is used to quantify meeting or improvement toward meeting *NCLB* goals. Schools, districts and the Utah State Office of Education (USOE) are required to meet AYP criteria in three categories: (1) 95% participation in the assessment; (2) Language arts and mathematics proficiency levels based on Utah CORE Criterion Referenced Test (CRT) scores; and (3) Either graduation rate for high schools and the district or attendance rate for elementary and junior high schools.

Schools must meet *NCLB* proficiency standards in participating grade spans and subgroups when considered separately. The subgroups are: Whole School, Asian, African American, American Indian, Caucasian, Hispanic, Pacific Islander, Economically Disadvantaged, Limited English Proficient (LEP) and Students with Disabilities. If any one subgroup does not meet the proficiency level, the school will not meet AYP.

Schools must meet the participation requirement of 95% and then meet the following academic proficiency levels or show adequate improvement toward meeting the levels in all ten subgroups to be considered passing AYP:

#### Grades 3-8:

- (1) 83% of 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students must meet proficiency in language arts; and
- (2) 45% of 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students must meet proficiency in mathematics.

#### Grades 10-12:

- (1) 82% of 10<sup>th</sup> grade students must meet proficiency in language arts; and
- (2) 40% of 10<sup>th</sup> grade students must meet proficiency in mathematics.

During the 2010-2011 school years, the following schools met all AYP requirements:

**Grades 3-8:** Anna Smith Elementary, Dugway Elementary, Harris Elementary, Ibapah Elementary, Northlake Elementary, Settlement Canyon Elementary, Stansbury Park Elementary, Vernon Elementary, West Elementary, Willow Elementary, Clarke N. Johnsen Jr. High, Grantsville Jr. High, Tooele Jr. High.

**Grades 10-12:** Blue Peak High, Dugway High, Grantsville High, Wendover High.

During the 2010-2011 school years, the following schools did not meet all AYP requirements:

**Grades 3-8:** Copper Canyon Elementary in language arts in two subgroups: Whole School and Caucasian; East Elementary in language arts in one subgroup: Students with Disabilities; Middle Canyon Elementary in language arts in five subgroups: Whole School, Caucasian, Hispanic, Economically Disadvantaged and Students with Disabilities; Overlake Elementary in language arts in one subgroup: Students with Disabilities; Rose Springs Elementary in language arts in one subgroup: Students with Disabilities.

**Grades 10-12:** Stansbury High School in mathematics in one subgroup: Students with Disabilities; Tooele High School in mathematics in one subgroup: Students with Disabilities.

Tooele County School District did meet AYP in grades 3-8 and grades 10-12 in mathematics and language arts. The District had an increase in the graduation rate from 75% to 83%.

After examining the District's AYP results, we will continue to focus teaching and learning on core concepts throughout all grades and content areas. Through collaboration in the schools' Professional Learning Communities, the questions will remain: (1) What do we want each student to learn? (2) How will we know when each student has learned it? (3) How will we respond when a student experiences difficulty in learning? (4) How will we enrich and extend the students' learning when they already know it? (*Learning by Doing*, DuFour, 2006) and (5) What best teaching strategies will we identify to use during instruction to ensure learning for all students?

Utah law requires that information regarding school performance be made available to the public by posting information to the internet. Information for all schools in the District may be viewed at the Utah State Office of Education website: <http://u-pass.schools.utah.gov/u-passweb/UpassServlet>. A link to the state prepared AYP school reports is also available on the Tooele County School District website under the "Public Information" tab the link is: <http://www.schools.utah.gov/data/Educational-Data/Accountability-School-Performance.aspx>.