



Pecos Independent School District

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August 20, 2018

Parents,

The Pecos ISD and the rest of the state schools in New Mexico have received their grades for the 2017-18 school year based on indicators established by the Public Education Department. The bulk of the grade is derived from the student performance on the PARCC exam that was administered in the spring of 2018.

The district saw growth by students across the board in the tested areas. Most of the growth was seen with students jumping from Level 1-Did Not Meet to Level 2-Partially Proficient to Level 3-Approaching Proficient. The district; however, did not show an increase in the Proficient category-Level 4. The district as a whole compared very well against the state averages, but still did not reach our desired proficiency levels. The elementary and high schools received a D grade. The high school moved up in that category missing a C rating by 1 point. The middle school moved up to a C grade by showing growth in many areas.

The district administrators have met on this matter, and in turn, the principals are meeting with their unit staff members. The district has devised a plan of action to address the deficiencies that the data analysis of the scores has produced.

The three schools are implementing, with fidelity, interventions in mathematics and reading at each site. This is being done with the help of research-based programs, instructional strategies, structures and methods. The district has instructional coaches to help the teachers to focus on instruction that is leading our students to meeting the standards that they will be tested on. These are clear, high standards. The following elements are aligned to ensure that we are preparing our students accordingly: Fair Assessments-Aligned Curriculum-Aligned Instruction-Aligned Instructional Materials-Proper Interventions.

The district principals are currently participating in the PED initiatives that will help our instructional staff to better the instruction being delivered to our students. The high school is part of the PED initiative Teachers Pursuing Excellence. This is a rigorous program that teaches the participants the proper research-based approaches that will help students perform and achieve higher academic output. Each principal will be sending a letter home to go over what is being done in his/her respective unit. We are utilizing interim assessments to track the progress or the regression of student performance. This

data will help us to properly tailor the lesson to his/her needs. All staff will be communicating with parents about any academic concerns, distractions, or other matters. We will be communicating with you about progress throughout the year.

I truly believe that the success of our students depends on three factors:

- 1. School staff teaching the content to our students and ensuring that learning is taking place—ensuring that they are prepared in their lessons and instruction—contacting parents about the progress of their child(ren)--**
- 2. The students being receptive and trying in classes to learn the material that is being taught to the best of their ability without disrupting the learning of others—by doing and turning in class work and homework daily--**
- 3. Parents supporting their students and school by being actively involved with the education of their child(ren)—Ensuring that their child(ren) is in school *daily* to learn—ensuring that their child(ren) is behaving in school and following rules—Checking on your child’s grades and homework daily--and supporting the school in its effort to educate their child(ren)—**

If these three factors are aligned, our students will show positive academic growth. We will meet our goals of meeting the proficiency levels of the PARCC exam and properly preparing our students to be College and Career Ready. We need your help and support to make this happen. The district and its educators are working very diligently to do our part. That is our promise to you. We need the other two factors to join us in ensuring that they are doing their part. Let’s do this together. Our children’s future depends on all of us working together.

I ask for your involvement in meeting our goals. We are always here to speak to you about our district. Our children are very important to all of us.

More information will be given out to parents at the Meet and Greet at the secondary levels and at the Grade Level Meetings for parents at the elementary school.

As always, thank you for your continued support!

Fred Trujillo, Superintendent