

**Dear Zackar Levi Elementary School Parents  
& Joseph & Olinga Gregory School Parents**

**August 19, 2011**



In August, the state Department of Education & Early Development announced our school's standing with regards to meeting federal requirements for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for state tests taken in Spring 2011. The **Zackar Levi Elementary School did not meet AYP.**

Under No Child Left Behind (NCLB), each state sets AYP goals for the percent of students that must be proficient on the state tests (Standards Based Assessment or SBAs) each year. By 2014, the AYP goal is that 100% of the students will be proficient on language arts (reading & writing) and math. For 2010 – 2011, Alaska's AYP goals for the percent of students that score proficient or above were raised to: **Language Arts – 82.88 % and Math – 74.57%**. In order to make AYP, each of the following subgroups of students must meet the AYP goals: ethnicity, economically disadvantaged, students with disabilities, and students with limited English language proficiency. Schools must also meet an additional requirement of graduation rate of 85% (if they have students who were scheduled for graduation) **OR attendance rate of 85%** (for schools with no students eligible for graduation).

Specific information about the performance of each subgroup of students can be found on the Department of Education website at <http://www.eed.state.ak.us/> under "District AYP" and also at <http://www.eed.state.ak.us/tls/assessment/accountability.html>

At **Zackar Levi and Joseph & Olinga Gregory Elementary Schools**, performance of the following subgroups is being reported:

- The School As A Whole
- Alaska Native & American Indian
- Economically Disadvantaged
- African American
- Caucasian
- Students with Disabilities
- Asian
- Multi-ethnic
- Limited English Proficient
- Hispanic

The AYP goals will increase in future years until all students are required to be proficient in 2014. In addition to AYP, each school as a whole and the subgroups must meet a participation rate for testing. 95% of students in a school must participate in testing for the school to meet AYP. We are pleased that **Zackar Levi and Joseph & Olinga Gregory Elementary Schools did meet AYP for participation.**

For 2010-2011, **Zackar Levi Elementary School did meet Adequate Yearly Progress for attendance rate with a rate of 87%.** **Joseph & Olinga Elementary School did meet Adequate Yearly Progress for attendance rate with a rate of 85%.**

For 2010-2011, **Zackar Levi Elementary School did not meet Adequate Yearly Progress for Language Arts or Mathematics.** For third and fourth graders who took the SBA tests at Joseph & Olinga Gregory Elementary School, their AYP was not measured since they moved into their new school at mid-year. Next year JOGES will receive an AYP rating.

Following is a summary of the student groups and the percentage of proficient students at Zackar Levi Elementary School:

<b>Student Group</b>	<b>Performance Area</b>	<b>Students Proficient</b>
<b>School as a Whole</b>	<b>Language Arts</b>	<b>30% (Did Not Meet AYP)</b>
	<b>Math</b>	<b>33% (Did Not Meet AYP)</b>
<b>Alaska Native &amp; American Indian</b>	<b>Language Arts</b>	<b>30% (Did Not Meet AYP)</b>
	<b>Math</b>	<b>33% (Did Not Meet AYP)</b>
<b>Economically Disadvantaged</b>	<b>Language Arts</b>	<b>30% (Did Not Meet AYP)</b>
	<b>Math</b>	<b>33% (Did Not Meet AYP)</b>
<b>Limited English Proficient</b>	<b>Language Arts</b>	<b>28% (Did Not Meet AYP)</b>
	<b>Math</b>	<b>31% (Did Not Meet AYP)</b>

Because **Zackar Levi Elementary School** has not made Adequate Yearly Progress 4 years, we will be designated as a **Level 4** School for the 2011 – 2012 school year. We are required to continue to review and revise our **School Improvement Plan** and the **Corrective Action** needed at Level 4 to identify ways to strengthen instructional support programs for our students and submit our plan to the district for approval. Our school will be focusing on ways to close achievement gaps and bring every student to proficiency in reading, writing and math. Parents and community members are invited and encouraged to be a part of this process. If you are interested in participating in the School Improvement plans, please contact your Principal.

Also because **Zackar Levi Elementary School is a Level 4 School Improvement site**, qualifying students will be offered supplemental educational services (free tutoring) targeted at helping each child reach state academic standards. Parents of qualifying students will be receiving a special letter providing more information about the free tutoring that may be available to their child.

Our goal is 100% proficiency for all students. The entire staff of **Zackar Levi Elementary School** is behind this goal and the efforts of parents, students and the district office to make it happen.

District level AYP is not yet available. Specific information on how our students scored district wide will be included in the District Report Card to the Public which will be sent in the next few weeks.

For more information on NCLB, please go to <http://www.eed.state.ak.us/nclb/>, or contact me. I hope you will join me in supporting our students and teachers as we work toward reaching our goals for the coming year. *Together we will make a difference!*

Sincerely,

Brad Allen  
Superintendent of Schools