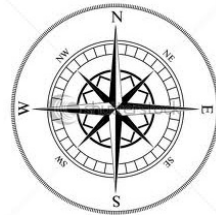


ELGER BAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1810 ELGER BAY ROAD
CAMANO ISLAND, WA 98282
(360) 629-1290



VICTOR HANZELI, PRINCIPAL
JANET PETERSON, OFFICE MGR.
LESLIE WHALEY, SECRETARY

“PROUD HOME OF THE EXPLORERS”

August 17, 2015

To the Parents/Guardians of Students at Elger Bay Elementary School:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that our school has been identified as a school in Step 1 of School Improvement under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001.

What is School Improvement?

NCLB requires the state and district to review annually the academic progress of federally funded Title I, Part A schools and to identify schools in need of improvement. Schools are identified as in need of improvement after two consecutive years of not making adequate yearly progress (AYP). Washington determines AYP by considering the following three measures:

- The percentage of students scoring at the “proficient” or “advanced” level on the Washington Standards Tests for English-language arts and mathematics.
- The percentage of students participating in those tests.
- The graduation rate for high schools/unexcused absence rate for elementary and middle schools.

Why is our school identified as a School in Improvement Step 1

The reason our school is in improvement is because we did not achieve AYP in 2013-2014 and 2014-2015. The AYP area that caused the identification is Reading / English-Language Arts.

However, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) was granted a waiver from the United States Department of Education that allows OSPI to keep a school in the step of improvement that the school was assigned in 2014–15, if student test scores are the only reason the school would have moved into Step 1 of improvement or moved up a step of improvement. Therefore Elger Bay Elementary will remain in Step 1 because of this waiver.

The school's 2014–2015 AYP report may be obtained from the school or on OSPI's State Report Card webpage at <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx>.

Public School Choice (PSC): What right does a parent have to request a transfer to a school that is not in a step of improvement?

All parents/guardians of students attending a school that has been identified in a step of improvement have the right to request a transfer for their child(ren) to another school within the district (referred to as a “choice school”) that has not been identified as a school in a step of improvement.

For parents who select this option, the district will provide transportation to the “choice school” for as long as the home school continues to be identified as a school in improvement. If the home school exits improvement by making AYP for two consecutive years, the student can remain at the school; however, transportation will no longer be paid for or provided by the district. If the demand for PSC exceeds funds available at the district, priority will be given to lowest achieving, low-income students.

If you are interested in transferring your child(ren) to a choice school in our district for the 2015-2016 school year, please select from the following list of schools. This information is also available on our district website at www.stanwood.wednet.edu. Your preference of a choice school will be taken into consideration.

Our School Scores	Spring 2015 SBA ELA Scores (Target = 100% Proficiency)	Spring 2015 SBA Math (Target = 100% Proficiency)
Elger Bay Elementary	3 rd grade (60.0%) 4 th grade (68.8%) 5 th grade (64.0%)	3 rd grade (60.0%) 4 th grade (59.2%) 5 th grade (44.9%)

** PSC (Choice School) for 2015-2016	Spring 2015 SBA ELA Scores (Target = 100% Proficiency)	Spring 2015 SBA Math (Target = 100% Proficiency)
** Stanwood Elementary	3 rd grade (46.4%) 4 th grade (71.2%) 5 th grade (68.0%)	3 rd grade (64.3%) 4 th grade (70.1%) 5 th grade (62.0%)
** Saratoga (Home School)	3 rd grade (50.0%) 4 th grade (42.9%) 5 th grade (46.2%)	3 rd grade (50.0%) 4 th grade (35.7%) 5 th grade (30.8%)

SBA = Smarter Balanced Assessment

ELA = English / Language Arts

For more information about these school, please contact the district at (360) 629-1237. You may also go to the district's website at www.stanwood.wednet.edu.

To apply for a PSC transfer from a school identified in a step of improvement, please complete the attached application and return it by August 24, 2015. If you need assistance or have questions, please contact Teresa Haugstad at (360) 629-1237.

What will the school do to address the problem of low achievement?

We are working closely with the district staff to revise our school improvement plan to include:

- Strategies, policies, and practices that utilize scientifically-based research and have the greatest likelihood of ensuring that all groups of students will meet the state's achievement targets.
- High quality professional development for school staff that will lead to removing the school from school improvement status.
- Strategies to promote effective parental involvement in the school.

What are the district and state doing to support schools in Improvement?

Our district is working closely with the school to improve curriculum, instruction, and student performance. The district provides information, special help, and access to resources for schools identified in Step 2, 3, or 4 of improvement. Schools identified in Step 2, 3, or 4 of improvement will receive district technical assistance in:

- Analyzing various data reports for revising the school plan
- Strengthening core academic instruction
- Collaborating with parents to increase student academic achievement

How can parents become involved?

Research shows that strong parental involvement leads to student success at school. Parents interested in partnering with the school are encouraged to contact the school for additional information regarding:

- Parental involvement policies
- School-parent compact
- Ongoing parent/community meetings
- Advisory committee/school site council meetings
- Parent volunteer opportunities

We will keep you updated and informed about opportunities to discuss plans for our school. If you have questions, need additional information on how you can get involved in our school improvement efforts, or would like to discuss the school's instructional program and school improvement status, please feel free to call me at 360.629.1290 and/or visit the school.

Sincerely,

Victor Hanzeli, Principal