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-----**POLO R-VII SCHOOL DISTRICT**-----

August 4, 2010

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The goal of the *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB) of 2001 is to ensure that all children in this country receive a quality education. Under NCLB, each state is required to assess all schools to determine if each school has made adequate yearly progress (AYP) toward meeting the academic testing standards and additional measures set by the state. AYP decisions are based on the results of state testing in communication arts and math and the school's attendance rate or graduation rate. If the school has not made AYP for two consecutive years, it is considered "in need of improvement." Based on the results of the 2009-2010 academic testing in communication arts and math and the school's attendance rate or graduation rate, your child's school, Polo R-VII Elementary School did not make adequate yearly progress for the following reasons:

1. The annual proficiency achievement target was not met in Communication Arts by the elementary students in 2008 and in 2009. The annual proficiency achievement target in Math was met in 2009. Attendance and graduation rates were met with 95.3% and 100% respectively.
2. For the 2009-2010 school year the proficiency achievement target for Communication Arts was 67.4% and the Math target was 63.3% of all students taking the test. Polo R-VII elementary students met the Math target but scored below the Communication Arts target making this the second year Polo R-VII elementary scored below the Communication Arts proficiency targets. Because of this designation, the school is considered to be in Level 1 of School Improvement and must develop a plan for improvement. One important component of this plan will be parent involvement in both the development and implementation of the plan.

Under the requirements of the NCLB Act public school choice is available for schools in Level 1 of School Improvement. However, Polo R-VII School District does not have any available schools for transfer because there is no other school with the same grade level available in our district so public school choice is not an option.

We encourage you to become involved with your child's school to support school improvement. You can help us by increasing your understanding of the assessment and understanding the importance of good attendance and graduating from school. Parents are also encouraged to become engaged in reading and math strategies at home. Parents are welcome to visit schools and become a volunteer.

Sincerely,

Mr. Newhart
Superintendent of Schools