

October 29, 2010

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child is currently enrolled in Chesapeake High School for the 2010 - 2011 school year. The school has been identified by the Maryland State Department of Education as a school in need of Local Attention.

**Why has Chesapeake High School been identified as a school in need of Local Attention?**

Under the *No Child Left behind Act of 2001 (NCLB)*, schools must meet specific achievement targets in attendance rates, reading and mathematics. These annual improvement targets demonstrate if a school has made "Adequate Yearly Progress" (AYP). Chesapeake High did not meet AYP in the following demographic groups:

***Reading – Special Education***

**How does Chesapeake High School compare to other schools in our county and state?**

The chart below compares the percentage of students who scored proficient on the 2010 HSA for Chesapeake High with the average scores for Anne Arundel County and schools across the State.

2010 H.S.A.			
	Chesapeake High	Anne Arundel County	Maryland Schools
Content	Proficient	Proficient	Proficient
Special Education Reading	54.5	63.4	51.6

**What is Chesapeake staff doing to improve student achievement?**

The School Improvement Team at Chesapeake will develop a two-year plan to improve student achievement and continuously analyze school data to determine how to improve performance in **reading**. Student performance data will be utilized to determine interventions based on the needs of the students. Our staff will monitor and evaluate student performance.

During the 2010 - 2011 school year, Chesapeake will be implementing the following strategies to further improve student achievement:

- Instituting a *Read 180* program to support reading strategies for students with challenges in reading
- Developing mini-assessments and analyzing data to re-teach weak indicators.
- Developing lessons in study skills and test taking strategies to improve student performance in Remediation/Extension period and Advisory classes
- Utilizing thinking Maps in all classes so student visually organize thoughts and subject information
- Differentiating Instruction so that students benefit from connections to their own learning styles

**What is Anne Arundel County Public Schools doing to increase student achievement?**

The *Bridge to Excellence*, a framework for improving student achievement, provides clear direction for everyone involved in education in Anne Arundel County. The *Bridge to Excellence* is built on a foundation of clear standards, quality instruction, and individual accountability. In addition, all students in AACPS receive instruction aligned with the State Curriculum. Professional development is provided to teachers to ensure highly effective instructional delivery and content knowledge. Additionally, our staff will receive technical assistance from the Superintendent and central office staff.

### **What can parents/guardians do to help Chesapeake High School increase student achievement?**

Parents/guardians can assist the efforts of the school by making sure that their children come to school on time every day, ready to learn. In addition, parents can check that all homework assignments and school projects are completed on time. Parents are encouraged to participate in parent education activities, attend all parent-teacher conferences, and learn more about how to help their children at home and at school. Parents should tell teachers they want to hear from them as soon as problems occur so they can work together to find solutions.

### **How can parents/guardians find out more information?**

Chesapeake High School will continue to provide assessment data on our website and newsletters and information at parent meetings to assist the community understand:

- What identification for school improvement means for our school.
- The reason(s) that MSDE identified Chesapeake for improvement.
- What we are doing to address school improvement.
- What parents/guardians can do to help address the academic issues that led to not making AYP.

Additional information regarding AYP can be found on the Maryland State Department of Education website: [www.mdk12.org](http://www.mdk12.org).

Thank you for your continued support. Together we will provide every child with an excellent education.

Sincerely,

Frank W. Drazan  
Principal