



Where Students Come First

June 26, 2008

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Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) requires that parents/guardians of children attending “Needs Improvement” schools be notified of their school’s academic achievement. This letter is intended to provide additional information concerning the options available to your child under the NCLB Act. Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is one of the cornerstones of the NCLB Act. It is a measure of year-to-year student achievement on statewide tests. **Recent testing data indicates that your child’s school did make AYP for the 2007-08 school year, but still, must offer Public School Choice.**

I am proud to tell you that Sandtown Middle School made AYP this past school year! This accomplishment is very noteworthy. At Sandtown MS, we take pride in the educational opportunities we are able to provide for our children. Our teachers and staff members work very hard to meet the needs of all students to ensure academic success. We have evidence that students are learning and making good progress, and we consider this to be an important indicator of success. Several different tests of student achievement have shown us that our students are making significant gains. You may contact Sandtown MS to request a copy of the test scores.

Public School Choice allows students enrolled in a school that is in Year One or more of “Needs Improvement” status to enroll in a school not designated as “Needs Improvement.” If you choose Public School Choice for your child, the school system has certain obligations to provide or pay for transportation to the choice school. The Fulton County School System will provide transportation based on our district’s guidelines. Transportation to that school will be provided until your current school makes AYP for two consecutive years. **At that time, if you choose to continue sending your child to the transfer school you will be responsible for transportation.** If you choose to take advantage of Public School Choice and request a transfer for your child, more information regarding school bus transportation will be mailed in early August.

Deciding whether to transfer to another school is an important decision and we want you to make the best, most informed decision possible. Please consider the improvement strategies and special programs at your child’s current school as well as its positive achievements. Please also become more familiar with any school you may be considering for a transfer. You are welcome to visit that school and speak with its staff as well as contact other parents. We have included test scores for your school and the transfer schools to give you a background on academic achievement. The transfer schools were selected based on AYP status.

Under NCLB, a school must make AYP two consecutive years to be removed from Needs Improvement. Please know that your child’s school is doing well overall. While we are constantly improving, **Sandtown MS** remains in Needs Improvement status; therefore, you may choose for your child to remain at **Sandtown MS** or to transfer to one of the below schools, which are offered based on a variety of factors, including projected enrollment, location and transportation options:

- **Woodland Middle School**
- **Crabapple Middle School**
- **Haynes Bridge Middle School**

IF YOU WANT YOUR CHILD TO REMAIN AT SANDTOWN MS, NO ACTION IS NECESSARY.

Parents/guardians who desire to apply for a transfer must complete a request for transfer application. The request for transfer application must be **received** (not postmarked) by mail or hand-delivery to the Fulton County School System's Student Assignment Office on or before **July 16, 2008**. You may also fax the application to 404-669-4948 on or before **July 16, 2008**. Please be aware that we can not guarantee that all students will be assigned their first choice school.

Please complete the attached form and return it to the Student Assignment Office:

Fulton County School System
Student Assignment Office
786 Cleveland Avenue SW
Atlanta, GA 30315

We want to continue serving your child and will use all the resources available to the Fulton County School System to help our students achieve. An important part of this effort is parent participation and support in developing activities to improve student achievement. We hope that as a parent you will participate in developing our school improvement initiatives as we continue to monitor student achievement and set high expectations. If you are interested in additional information regarding the Public School Choice provisions of NCLB, and/or have questions, please contact the Student Assignment Office at 404-763-6801.

Sincerely,

Linda Anderson
Deputy Superintendent Instruction

REQUEST FOR AYP SCHOOL CHOICE TRANSFER 2008- 09

Student's name *(list only one child per form)* _____

Student's grade level (2008-09) _____ Student's date of birth _____

Parent or Guardian's name _____

Parent or Guardian's address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Does this student have an open IEP? (circle one) Yes No

You may request to have your child attend any of the schools listed below. **If interested, please rank all of the schools in order of preference with '1' being your first choice.*** The district encourages you to rank as many choices as possible. One-way travel time to all choice schools could exceed 1½ hours without any major traffic delays.

ATTENDANCE OPTIONS

Spring 2007 and 2008 CRCT Scores
(% of 8th grade students passing)

**Please remember to rank all of the schools in order of preference with '1' being your first choice.*

	<u>Spring 2007</u>		<u>Spring 2008</u>	
	Eng/L.A.	Math	Eng/L.A.	Math
_____ Sandtown Middle School (current school)	91%	74% *	97%	52% *
_____ Woodland Middle School - 9 miles 2745 Stone Road East Point, Georgia 30344	89%	82% *	85%	47% *
_____ Crabapple Middle School - 37 miles 10700 Crabapple Road Roswell, GA 30075	98%	93% *	97%	88% *
_____ Haynes Bridge Middle School - 37 miles 10665 Haynes Bridge Road Alpharetta, GA 30022	94%	88% *	98%	76% *

**Baseline GPS data cannot be compared to previous year CRCT scores.*

The Fulton County School System cannot guarantee that your child will be approved for a transfer to your top school choice. You will be informed of your child's school assignment. **If you would like for your child to remain at his or her current school, you do not have to complete this form or take any other action.**

Parent or Guardian's signature _____ Date _____

Daytime phone _____ Evening phone _____

Please complete and return this form by mail, fax or hand delivery to:

Office of Student Assignment
Fulton County School System
786 Cleveland Avenue SW, Atlanta, GA 30315
FAX: 404-669-4948 PHONE: 404-763-6801

TRANSFER REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 4:30 PM, July 16, 2008

For Office Use Only		
F/R Status: _____	Achievement: _____	Approved for transfer: _____