

February 4, 2016

Dear North Rose Wolcott BOE Members,

RE: Accountability status for 2016-17

I am writing to inform you that we have been notified of our accountability status for the 2016-17 school year. Please note that this information is currently embargoed and will not be released publicly until February 25th. We will receive our final designation on February 23rd from SED. Our accountability status is as follows:

- 1) Focus District for the Hispanic subgroup based on the 2014-15 combined 3-8 ELA and Math scores
- 2) Focus School at the Middle School for the economically disadvantaged subgroup based on the 2014-15 combined 3-8 ELA and Math scores

As you may recall, the middle school was designated as a Local Assistance Plan last year (14-15) for students with disabilities, and we had to go through a process of self-rating in different areas and then had to create an action plan based on those ratings. We were successful in “getting off the list” for the current school year, but for next year we will be back “on the list” and on it at a higher level. The focus designation means a higher level of scrutiny, accountability, and need for our district.

We will be contacted by SED in the coming weeks regarding the process that we will have to follow as a result of these designations. We will have to go through a review process that uses the DTSDE (diagnostic tool for school and district effectiveness) for both the district and the middle school, and then will have to create a district level plan that addresses the Hispanic subgroup (DCIP-District Comprehensive Improvement Plan) and a middle school plan that addresses students who are economically disadvantaged (SCEP-School Comprehensive Education Plan). We have been told by BOCES that it is highly likely that SED personnel will be visiting our district and will be overseeing the review and subsequent plan creation with us.

In short, this is not good news for our district and our students. We will have to stay the course with our current school improvement initiatives and will also have to implement additional improvement strategies so that we are consistently improving student outcomes. I will share additional information that we receive regarding the process as soon as we get it from SED.

Respectfully submitted,



Melanie E. Stevenson
Director of Curriculum and Instruction