

Restructuring Plan Development for Title I Schools Under NCLB

After not making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for five years, No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requires that Title I schools enter the phase of Title I School Improvement where a restructuring plan is developed. If the school continues to not make AYP, the restructuring plan is implemented in the following year. The restructuring plan must represent major changes in the way a school operates. The school district must take intensive and far-reaching interventions to revamp the operation and governance of the school.

Parents with children at schools in this phase of Title I School Improvement have options. They are:

1. To keep their child at the school and to participate in the development of the restructuring plan; or
2. To enroll their child in another designated school of choice, if available; or
3. To have their child remain at the school and sign him/her up to receive supplemental educational services (SES), which are free tutoring services offered outside of the regular school day available to children receiving free or reduced-price lunch.

With parent and school input, the district develops a plan for a school's restructuring. The restructuring plan must include one of the following alternative governance arrangements:

- Reopening as a charter
- Replacing all or most of the school staff, which may include the principal
- Entering into a contract with a private management company
- Turning the operation of the school over to the state
- Implementing any other major restructuring of the school's governance arrangement that is consistent with the NCLB principles of restructuring

Examples of other major restructuring efforts are:

- Changing the governance structure so that school-based management and decision making is diminished and district control, monitoring, and oversight is increased

- Closing the school and reopening it as a focus or theme school with new staff or staff skilled in the focus area
- Reconstituting the school into smaller learning communities
- Dissolving the school and assigning students to other schools
- Pairing the school with a higher performing school so that K-3 grades are together and 4-5 grades are together
- Expanding or narrowing grades served

WHEN IS A SCHOOL NO LONGER IN TITLE I SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT?

A school is no longer in Title I School Improvement and is no longer in restructuring plan development after making AYP in the subject that first identified it as needing improvement for two years in a row. It is possible for a school to exit Title I School Improvement in one subject in the same year that it enters improvement or continues to be in improvement due to another subject.

WHAT IS AYP?

Through statewide testing, AYP measures the yearly progress of different groups of students toward achieving state academic standards in reading/language arts and math. All groups of students are expected to meet the same target goals each year. For a school to make AYP, each student group in the tested grades must meet proficiency targets in reading/language arts and math and each student group must have at least a 95% participation rate in the assessments for both subjects. This represents four targets (proficiency and participation in reading/language arts and math assessments) for each student group. Detailed school AYP reports on the Web at <http://ayp.ncpublicschools.org> show school as a whole and student group performances.

Available on the web at www.ncpublicschools.org/nclb/restructuring/facts/.



For more information on NCLB and AYP reporting in North Carolina, access the Web at www.ncpublicschools.org/nclb/. For more information on school restructuring from the U.S. Department of Education, access the Web at www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/schoolimprovementguid.doc.



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