

February 14, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Harpursville Central School is committed to providing its students with the best educational opportunities possible in order to ensure their growth, achievement, and success both now and in the future. We constantly evaluate the progress that we are making in meeting the outcomes desired for all students and work to make the necessary adjustments in order to enhance the education of our students. Not only do we evaluate our schools' progress on a local level, but this is also done at the state level through its accountability system, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Thus, the purpose of this correspondence is to provide you with information related to ESSA and the accountability status for the W.A. Olmsted Elementary School under ESSA.

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) recently released new accountability designations for all schools across the state. The W.A. Olmsted Elementary School has been identified as a "Comprehensive Support and Improvement" (CSI) school and as a result, the district is also identified as a "Target District". This designation requires that both the NYSED and the district provide focused attention and direct resources to help our school improve.

There are several steps that will happen as a result of the elementary school's designation as a CSI school, including:

- The NYSED will lead an on-site needs assessment to determine what works well and what does not. Parents and community members will have the opportunity to take part in this. Then, your school will develop a school improvement plan.
- Once approved by the district and the state, the improvement plan will be implemented. It will include at least one school-wide improvement strategy. This could include changing how funds are spent or strengthening how classrooms support students' social and emotional health. Teachers and staff will take part in professional development. And your school will be eligible for funds to support the improvement strategy.
- Parents and students will have opportunities to help decide how some school funds are spent or engage in other activities that give voice to students and parents.
- If your school does not improve, additional actions will be required, and if low-performance persists a school may be placed into Receivership.

We are looking at this as a growth opportunity for our school and our district and we are confident that we will see the progress that we desire and is demanded by this process. It will take the collective and cooperative work of everyone! We invite you to strengthen your partnership with us in order to ensure that we are providing an excellent education for all students. Please contact the building principal, Mr. DiMaria, or Mrs. Horton, director of instruction, if you have any questions or need further information regarding the information contained in this letter. You may also review related contents that are on the school's website. Please know that we will continue to keep you informed of our work aimed at improving our school.

Thank you, in advance, for your continued support of our school and our students. Together, we are sure to grow and achieve!

Yours in education,



Mr. Michael J. Rullo
Superintendent of Schools
