

Especially for Parents

# A.A.S.D. Elementary Schools

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND - PARENT NEWSLETTER  
(Edition #3)

To assess the effectiveness of America's schools, No Child Left Behind legislation requires all schools to be accountable for results. The PSSA testing measures goals for student achievement to ensure students are proficient in reading, writing and math. (science standards will be added by 2007-2008). A school must prove that its students are making adequate yearly progress (AYP) toward reaching these goals as measured by the PSSA tests.



## ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS



### AYP GOALS

In 2003 and 2004 for a school, **45%** of the students in reading and **35%** of the students in math must be **proficient** in these areas. By the year 2005, the AYP increases to: (Reading - 54% / Math - 45%). The AYP requirements for a school continue to increase each year until the year 2014. In 2014, 100% of all students should be proficient in all assessed areas. So that parents are aware of the school's progress, a school report card must be made public annually. Parents will know how their school performed on the PSSA test compared to the School District and the State as a whole. The report card will also provide other important school information.


### WILL THE RESULTS OF A CHILD'S TESTS BE PRIVATE?

Only the parents and school receive the results of an individual child's tests. Individual student scores will not be made public. These scores are used by teachers as they design strategies in the regular curriculum to help all students to succeed and become proficient in all areas.

### TIPS FOR PARENTS

(Source: *The Achiever*, Feb. 15, 2003, nclb.gov)

Rearing children of character demands time and attention. Here are five tips to help your children build strong character:

- **Be a good example.** You can't avoid being an example to your children, whether good or bad. Being a good example is probably your most important job.
  - **Develop an ear and an eye for what your children are absorbing.** As parents we must control the flow of ideas and images that are influencing our children.
  - **Get deeply involved in your child's school life.** This is another way of helping them acquire the habits that build strong character.
  - **Make a big deal out of the family meal.** This time should communicate and sustain ideals that children will draw throughout their lives.
  - **Do not reduce character education to words alone.** The bottom line in character development is behavior -- their behavior and yours.
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