



BRENDA SCOTT ACADEMY

August 13, 2013

Dear Brenda Scott Academy Parents and Guardians:

This letter is being written to inform you that Brenda Scott Academy is a School-Wide Title I School for 2013-2014 school year under the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) requires that parents be notified in writing of the School Improvement status of their student's school. Stated below is further information regarding our Priority School Status, what that means, and how Brenda Scott Academy plans to improve student achievement.

Your student is important to us and we want to provide every opportunity for success. Each school in Michigan is required to test students every year using the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP). The results of these tests as well as participation on the tests are used to determine whether our school is meeting Michigan School Proficiency Targets and where it ranks on a "Top to Bottom" list of schools and their performance. As a result of this ranking on a "Top to Bottom" list, a low achieving school may be identified as a Priority or Focus school. This year, Brenda Scott Academy continues to be a Priority School from the 2011 cohort because it has continued to be among the bottom 5% of the Top to Bottom School list. A school identified as a Priority School in the 2011 cohort remains in that cohort of schools supervised by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) until spring 2015.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site: <http://www.michigan.gov/eea> and click on Annual Education Reports, or you may review a copy in our main office.

In order to improve student achievement, Brenda Scott Academy has and is continuing to implement a variety of initiatives. Major actions previously taken include the replacement of the past leadership staff, which occurred in the 2012-2013 school year with the hiring of myself, Mr. Marques Stewart, to lead as the new school principal. Listed below are other initiatives taking place this school year.

- Various Title I Initiatives - Student Supports:
 - Paraprofessional (teacher assistants) support in core content classrooms
 - School counselors and social workers
 - School attendance agent
 - Specialized classes offering math, reading, writing, and science support

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- Individualized professional learning for educators and leaders based on research based interventions to support achievement
- Educational excursions (i.e. field trips)
- Intervention/supplemental instruction lab
- Parent and community workshops and events to build community support
- Student mentoring programs (180 & Manhood)
- Use of student data –
 - Implementation of instructional reviews focusing on short term gains and data review by teachers
 - Use of data from state and district tests to identify potential strategies that can help students engagement and learning of the core content
- Increased instructional time and quantity focusing on student engagement and learning of core content
- Increased weekly teacher collaboration time to develop and implement strategies to support individual students
- Additional support services/ instruction for students with disabilities and English Language Learners
- Formation of a School Leadership Team to develop and implement new strategies for instruction and improved teaching
- District monitoring and evaluation of the School Improvement Plan

As a parent of child in a Title I School and Priority School, you have the right to participate in the decision making process. You are invited to participate on the School Leadership Team, as well as work with the school staff to make decisions regarding the Brenda Scott Academy School Improvement Plan and Parental Involvement Policy. We are looking forward to working with you to best serve your student's needs this school year.

If you have questions about your student's Title I school, please call your child's school at (313) 866-6700 or go to <http://brendascott.mi.eae.schoolinsites.com/> on the web for more information. We are looking forward to a year of educational success and continuous improvement for all of our students. Please continue to work with us to make sure that we achieve success for each student.

Educationally Yours,



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