

October 21, 2011

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Webb A. Murray Elementary School joins with other schools in Catawba County and throughout the state of North Carolina in our efforts to close the education gap among our students and to keep parents informed of our school's progress. Beginning on October 28, 2011, you will be able to see how Murray is performing in several areas, including those dealing with student performance, attendance, school safety, instructional resources and teacher quality.

For many years, the state's tool used to measure student progress and achievement has been the ABCs of Accountability. Now the federal government is also measuring our school's progress through Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) Reports as a part of the *No Child Left Behind* legislation. We are pleased to announce that our school exited the Title I School Improvement process in 2009 by meeting all of our goals for two consecutive years. Last year, when the score expectations were raised, we did not meet 100% percent of our goals for the federal government (AYP). We did, however, meet the highest standard (high growth) set forth by the state government (ABC).

Though our students did very well by most accountability measures this year, please remember that there is more to the story of a child's education than test scores alone when reviewing data from state and national reports. Feel free to contact the school for information concerning the special programs we have in place for our students. We will be happy to share plans for our continuing success and tell how we will be addressing the specific needs of various subgroups of our student population. We are very proud of the accomplishments of our students and will continue with plans to ensure that each child leaves us and moves to high school with all the tools needed for continued academic growth.

We have an outstanding group of teachers who strive daily to offer the best education possible for our students. We ask that you join us in our efforts to educate your child and to help shape our leaders of tomorrow. With your help, we can build the future – one child at a time.

Sincerely,

Chip Cathey
Principal
Webb A. Murray Elementary School