

Elba Central School
Keith Palmer
Superintendent of Schools



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Dear Parents and Guardians,

Each year, the New York State Education Department reviews the academic achievement of specific subgroups of students in each school district across New York State. Subgroups of students include various ethnic populations, economically disadvantaged students, English language learners, students with disabilities and other similar designations. When subgroups perform well, a school district may be recognized by the State as a "Reward" school. But when a subgroup doesn't perform well, a school district may be considered a "Focus" District.

We were recently notified by the New York State Education Department of our designation as a "Focus" District. We received this designation by failing to meet a prescribed level of achievement set by the State for a specific subgroup in 2015-2016 on the 3-8 ELA and math State Assessments.

As a result, our District must undergo a review process which evaluates how we are doing in six different areas:

1. District leadership;
2. School leadership;
3. Curriculum development;
4. Teacher practices;
5. Student social and emotional development; and
6. Family and community engagement.

Based on the feedback from the review, we will then be required to submit a formal plan of action called a District Comprehensive Improvement Plan (DCIP) that addresses our deficiencies. This plan will specify the actions needed to improve student performance. If a certain level of progress is achieved for two consecutive years, we come off the list.

Last spring we were recognized as having the 4th highest student achievement out of all schools in Genesee, Orleans and Wyoming Counties. As a district, our students are performing quite well. But that is not to say that we don't have areas where we need to improve. Here is an area we can do better and we will work hard to make sure all of our students are successful. If you would like more information regarding FOCUS Districts, you may find a Q and A at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/accountability/FocusDistrictOverview.html>.

Very sincerely,

Keith Palmer
Superintendent
Elba Central School

*The purpose and tradition of Elba Central School District and its community
is to empower and inspire our students to be continuous learners who are challenged to succeed.*