

August 25, 2014

Dear Ramirez CSD Parents:

Subject: Assignment of Accreditation Status to the Ramirez Common School District

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the 2014-2015 accreditation status of the Ramirez Common School District is **Improvement Required**. The State accountability ratings are based on four performance indexes, Student Achievement, Student Progress, Closing Performance Gaps, and Postsecondary Readiness. Ramirez CSD met Standards in Index 1 Student Achievement of a Score of 70, Index 2 N/A, Index 3 Closing Performance Gaps with a Score of 34, and in Index 4 Not Eligible in Post Secondary Readiness. Which consist of STAAR Score, Graduation Rate Score, Graduation Plan Score, and Postsecondary Indicator Score.

The district report this year for Ramirez CSD it Met Standards in three indexes except for Postsecondary Index 4. The ratings still rely heavily on student performance on the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness, also as the STAAR exam. Soon the districts and campuses will receive letter grades.

The district is not where it needs to be, but it is making excellent progress. To improve student performance the district/school has hired two more teachers. The teaming of the teachers has show great results. We will continue to expand as the budget allows. The teachers and myself have participated in an intensive one-day workshop this past week and will continue attending workshops to meet the needs of English language learners, and also always trying to make sure that all the teachers have consistent, in high quality resources, such as teacher training in English, language arts, math, and science. The use of standardized STAAR preparation materials will help all the students in the different levels, and technology programs will help increase their learning.

When a campus does not meet standards, TEA requires the district to select an external consultant to work closely with the teachers and campus principal. The consultants are retired administrators and curriculum workers who have a track record of success.

After the campus meets the standards for two years, an external consultant is no longer required. "our teachers know why they are not learning and they intervene early and teach in a different way for those kids and tutorials will be given to those students starting the second six weeks. The district uses a variety of strategies, including implementing tutorial three times a week to addressed students' needs and weaknesses before the state assessment.

For more information regarding the assignment of accreditation statuses to school districts, you may access the TEA website at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/accredstatus>. This website will provide you with background information as well as links to the Texas Education Code and current commissioner's rules related to accreditation.

If you have additional questions regarding the assignment of an **Improvement Required** status to the Ramirez Common School District, or if you would like additional information about the district's ongoing improvement efforts, please call me 361-539-4343.

RESPECTFULLY,  
LYDIA LEAL, SUPERINTENDENT  
RAMIREZ CSD