

September 23, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Help your child succeed in school! As a result of the federal No Child Left Behind Act, your child may be eligible to receive extra help in mathematics and reading. You can receive **free** tutoring because Pontiac Academy for Excellence High School is identified for improvement and your family meets the income limits under the law.

Pontiac Academy for Excellence High School for improvement in Mathematics and/or English Language Arts because it has not made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) on the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) for 3 years prior to the 2008-2009 school year. Our high school students did not achieve AYP on the MME tests. The school is working to address these problems by:

- Providing continuous professional development for our teachers
- Developing an assessment system that will provide students, staff and parents with more frequent reports on student progress
- Implementing a web based tutorial program, Study Island, that will allow students more practice on core subject areas at both school and home
- Providing additional support for students through the services of reading, math and English Second Language specialists
- Providing a summer school program
- Providing an after school tutorial program
- Scheduling, additional classroom time in core academic subjects
- Providing Saturday School for grades 9-11

In order to help your child do better in school, you can now choose a **free** tutoring program in your area. For your child to be considered for the free tutoring, your child must be eligible for the free or reduced lunch program. A list of tutoring providers approved by the Michigan Department of Education is included. The free tutoring program will provide tutoring that is coordinated with what is being taught in school. Each provider's program is different. You will need to review the information for each program and decide which is best for your child. (See Attachment)

Think about the answers to these questions to help you decide:

- When and where will the tutoring take place?
- How far is it? Please note that transportation to the tutor and to your home may not be provided.
- How often the tutor will meet with your child and how long is each tutoring session?
- What programs, by grade level and subject areas, are provided by that tutor?

- What type of instruction is used (e.g., small group, one-on-one, or computer base instruction)?
- What are the tutor's qualifications?
- Does this program seem to fit your child's needs?

The school has invited tutoring providers to meet with parents on October 8, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. to help you decide. Included in this letter is a Tutor Selection Form. When you are ready to select a tutor from the list, complete this form and return it to Mrs. Keturah Brinson, ES Coordinator at Pontiac Academy for Excellence, 196 Cesar E. Chavez Ave., Pontiac, MI 48342, in the stamped envelop we have enclosed. Your Tutor Selection Form is due by October 23, 2009 for your child to be eligible to participate. It is important that you select a first, second, and third choice of providers due to limited availability.

If the High School receives more applications than there is space available, students will be selected based on academic need. Students who demonstrate the greatest academic need will be offered services first. If your child is not selected to receive tutoring services, you will be notified by mail. If your child is select to receive services, we will send a confirmation letter to you and the tutor you indicated on your Tutoring Selection Form.

The No Child Left Behind Act also allows students to transfer to another school. The School Choice letter will be mailed to you in September, 2009.

The school staff wants to help you with this information, so please do not hesitate to contact us with your questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mr. Claude Tiller  
High School Principal