

Charter School of Excellence

- Hamilton Center**, 2931 Harvard Road, Erie, PA 16508 ~ (814) 459-3954 voice ~ (814) 459-1050 fax
- Leadership Center**, 1511 Peach Street, Erie, PA 16501 ~ (814) 480-5914 voice ~ (814) 454-9859 fax
- Maritime Center**, 40 Holland Street, Erie, PA 16507 ~ (814) 459-5070 voice ~ (814) 459-5072 fax



August 19, 2009

Dear Perseus House Charter School of Excellence Parents/Guardians:

In January of 2002, the United States Congress passed a federal law entitled “No Child Left Behind Act” (NCLB). The NCLB requires each state, each school district, and each school within a district to meet a minimum of five specific targets. These targets are:

1. Each elementary and middle school must show improvements in attendance rates up to 90% while each high school must show improvement in graduation rates up to 80%.
2. At least 95% of the students enrolled in each school must participate in the Pennsylvania State Assessment test in mathematics.
3. At least 95% of the students enrolled in each school must participate in the Pennsylvania State Assessment in reading.
4. At least 65% of all students in each school must be “proficient” in reading.
5. At least 54% of all students in each school must be “proficient in mathematics.

In addition, those schools that have “subgroups” of 40 or more students must meet targets two through five above for each and every major ethnic subgroup, special education students, limited English proficient students, and low-income students. In order for a school to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), it must meet the initial five targets for all students, as well as the four additional targets for every subgroup.

I am writing to you to let you know that Perseus House Charter School of Excellence (PHCSE) did not meet the mathematics, reading or graduation threshold and consequently did not make AYP. Based on this data, our charter school continues to be defined as being in “Corrective Action I.” Included with this letter is information that shows how the performance of our charter school students who were tested compare to those across Pennsylvania. The charter school has developed a School Improvement Plan to address the issue of AYP. This plan and our Parent Involvement Policy will be shared with you by the school site principals.

Please know that the PHCSE staff has a relationship with your child and wants to continue to serve his or her needs through high school graduation. However, we are required to notify parents of eligible children about the option of transferring to another school that has met its AYP. If you feel that your child will be better served in another school, you may request a transfer. If you were a resident of the City of Erie School District, we would work with you and with the district staff to find an appropriate school in your city for your child to attend. If you were a resident of an Erie County School, we would work with you and the district staff to find an appropriate school for your child to

attend. If you would like to have your student transfer to another school, we are asking you to complete the enclosed Request to Transfer to Another School form and return it to the charter school so we can work with you to provide your child an acceptable choice.

Please be assured that the staff at our school is continually working to provide and improve opportunities for your child to successfully meet the Pennsylvania Academic Standards, develop job and work related skills, and to develop personal skills for successful interaction in the adult world. School success comes by communicating with your child's teachers, making sure your child attends regularly, and monitoring your child's progress. We want your child to remain in the Charter School of Excellence. With your continued support, our combined efforts will help all students become successful adults.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert Oliver,
Chief Educational Officer