



Tesnatee Gap Elementary School
2696 Tesnatee Gap Valley Rd
Cleveland, GA 30528
706.865.1037 (phone) 706.865.5001
(fax)



Octavius Mulligan
Principal

Kechara Partin
Assistant Principal

ESEA FLEXIBILITY WAIVER PARENT NOTIFICATION – NO SCHOOL DESIGNATION

8/8/16

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

On February 9, 2012 the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) received waivers from ten requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, as amended by No Child Left Behind (NCLB) of 2001. ESEA/NCLB requires that parents or guardians who have children attending a Title I school be notified of the school's academic achievement as well as a school's designation under Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver. This letter is intended to provide additional information concerning the options available to your child under Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver, and to help you understand what the waiver will mean for you and your child.

Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, the GaDOE will transition from needs improvement (NI) school designations based on adequate yearly progress (AYP) reports to Reward, Priority, Focus and Alert Schools designations based on ESEA Flexibility Waiver formulas. Title I schools will now implement specific programs and interventions based on Reward, Priority, Focus, and Alert Schools status. In addition, the GaDOE ESEA Flexibility Waiver outlines Georgia's new Single Statewide Accountability System, the College and Career Readiness Performance Index (CCRPI). The CCRPI will serve as a comprehensive report card for all schools in Georgia. The state system will give parents, students, teachers and families a more complete and comprehensive picture of where a school or district is meeting performance expectations and where it is not.

The Georgia ESEA Flexibility Waiver also eliminated Supplemental Educational Services (SES) and Public School Choice (Choice). However, for schools designated as Priority or Focus (or Alert if they choose to provide the service) the Georgia ESEA Flexibility Waiver provides greater flexibility in designing a flexible learning program (FLP) tailored to the needs of the schools. As a result, these identified schools will have the capacity to serve more students in need of additional academic support.

I am very proud to tell you that Tesnatee Gap Elementary School has not been given a school designation this year, which means we are continuing to provide a quality education to all of our students.

As reflected in the 2015 MAP results, students in each grade level are making gains in Mathematics and Language Arts. Even with the new Common Core Standards in place, the students at TGES performed at an excellent level in the areas assessed. We have not yet received results from GA Milestones.

At Tesnatee Gap Elementary School, we take pride in the educational opportunities we are able to provide for our children. Our teachers and staff members work very hard to meet the needs of all students to ensure academic success. We have evidence that students are learning and making good progress, and we consider this to be an important indicator of success. Under Georgia's Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver

that was approved on February 9, 2012; Title I Schools no longer have to provide Public School Choice under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), but rather has reverted to Georgia's Intradistrict Transfer Option.

Any student that has previously transferred to another school by exercising the ESEA Choice must be allowed to attend that school until they complete the school's highest grade; however, the LEA is no longer required to pay for the students' transportation cost during the duration of the student's attendance at their current Choice school. The LEA may continue to pay for Choice transportation for students only if the LEA chooses to do so.

However, parents will still have the Choice transfer under Georgia's, Intradistrict Transfers Option. The Georgia Intradistrict Transfers Option allows parents' of students enrolled in a public elementary or secondary school to enroll in a school other than the assigned school that is located within the school district, if classroom space is available after the assigned students of that district have been enrolled. In addition, under the Georgia Intradistrict Transfers Option, transportation will not be paid for by the district. The parent shall assume the responsibility and cost of transportation of the student to and from the school.

As we are achieving in many areas, we also know there is always room for improvement. An important part of our success is parent participation and support in developing activities to improve student achievement. We hope that as a parent/guardian, you will become involved in our school improvement initiatives as we continue to monitor student achievement and set high expectations. If you are interested in participating in developing our school improvement initiatives so we can continue to excel, contact Octavius Mulligan, principal (706) 865-1037 or octavius.mulligan@white.k12.ga.us

Thank you for all that you do to support your child's education.

Sincerely,

Octavius Mulligan
Principal