

October 30, 2011

Dear Parent or Guardian:

In accordance with the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requirement, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) issues a school “report card” each year. It contains important information about teacher qualifications, student achievement on Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) tests, and the progress we are making toward helping all students become proficient in English language arts and mathematics. You can view the report cards for both the school and the district by clicking the links below:

Barnstable High School:

<http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/reportcard/rc.aspx?linkid=37&orgcode=00200505&fycode=2011&orgtypecode=6&>

Barnstable Public Schools:

<http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/reportcard/rc.aspx?linkid=38&orgcode=00200000&fycode=2011&orgtypecode=5&>

The information in the report card is divided into three parts:

Enrollment and Educator Data (Teacher Qualifications): This part indicates the percentage of teachers who were licensed and highly qualified during 2010-2011.

2011 MCAS Results (Student Achievement): This part summarizes how our school’s students scored in English language arts, mathematics, and science and technology/engineering in the last two years of MCAS examinations.

2011 Adequate Yearly Progress Data (School Accountability): This part indicates whether or not our school is on target to meet the goal of all students reaching proficiency in English language arts and mathematics by 2014, a fundamental goal of the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). In accordance with NCLB, schools that do not make sufficient progress toward this goal are identified for “*improvement*”, “*corrective action*”, or “*restructuring*”.

Our school’s 2011 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) report indicates that at Barnstable High, the aggregate performance rating is Very High for both English Language Arts and mathematics. Barnstable made AYP in all subject areas and subgroups, except for the following:

1. English Language Arts – Special Education, Low Income, African American/Black
2. Mathematics – Special Education, Low Income, African American/Black, White

As a result of this determination and those of prior years, Barnstable High School has been identified for “*corrective action*” in English Language Arts for the subgroups referenced above and for “*improvement*” for all subgroups in Mathematics. 2011 was the second time in a series of years that subgroups did not make AYP in either subject.

These findings are an important part of your right to know how well our school is helping all students to reach proficiency in English language arts and mathematics. A short Question-and-Answer Pamphlet about NCLB Report Cards can be accessed at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/pdf/-nclb-reportcard-faq-english.html.pdf>

As referenced in an Alert-Now phone message, besides being posted on the schools’ website, you or your student may obtain paper copies of all information in the house offices. Please ask the Administrative Assistant for the NCLB report card information.

We are happy to help you if you have further questions about what this report card means. Please feel free to call or email me directly if I can be of additional assistance.

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