

District Improvement Level 2



August 5, 2010

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The goal of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001 is to ensure that all children in this country receive a quality education. Under NCLB, each state is required to assess all schools to determine if each school has made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward meeting the academic testing standards and additional measures set by the state. AYP decisions are based on the results of state testing in communication arts and math and the school's attendance or graduation rate. If the *district* has not made AYP for two consecutive years, it is considered "in need of improvement."

Marshall Cohen
Founder & Director

Katrice Noble
Principal

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Gym Director

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Based on the results of the 2009-2010 academic testing in communication arts and math and the school's attendance or graduation rate, your child's school, Lift for Life Academy, did not make AYP for the following reasons:

The school *district* was successful in meeting AYP in Communication Arts and the additional indicator of attendance. The district did not meet AYP in math; however, the academy did meet benchmark or safe harbor scores in math in two of the three categories set by the state. Only in the category of racially "black" did the academy did not have enough students meeting the state's proficiency goal. The state's total proficiency goal for 2009-2010 in mathematics was 67.4%. Lift for Life Academy's "black" students scored 26.4% and the overall score was 27.9%.

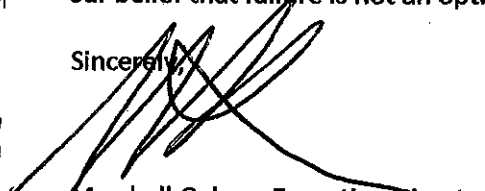
Although gains did occur among all groups, we will continue to work hard at making sure that all groups make AYP next year. Lift for Life Academy is very proud of what our students have accomplished in Communication Arts this past year and we look forward to making AYP in both Communication Arts and Math next year.

Because this is the second year of this designation, the *district* is considered to be in Level 2 of District Improvement. We will continue to implement the plan for improvement which was developed last year. One important component of this plan is parent involvement in the implementation of the plan.

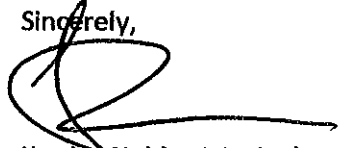
You can help by increasing your understanding of the assessment, understanding the importance of good attendance and graduating from school, visiting the school and becoming a volunteer, and engaging in reading and math strategies at home.

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. The success of all students and our belief that failure is not an option are our core values.

Sincerely,


Marshall Cohen, Executive Director
Lift for Life Academy School District

Sincerely,


Katrice Noble, Principal
Lift for Life Academy

1731 S. Broadway
St. Louis, MO 63104
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A lift that will
last a lifetime



School Improvement Level 5, Restructuring, Continuing

August 5, 2010

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The goal of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001 is to ensure that all children in this country receive a quality education. Under NCLB, each state is required to assess all schools to determine if each school has made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward meeting the academic testing standards and additional measures set by the state. AYP decisions are based on the results of state testing in communication arts and math and the school's attendance or graduation rate. If the school has not made AYP for two consecutive years, it is considered "in need of improvement."

Based on the results of the 2009-2010 academic testing in communication arts and math and the school's attendance or graduation rate, your child's school, Lift for Life Academy, did not make AYP for the following reasons:

The school was successful in meeting AYP in Communication Arts and the additional indicator of attendance. The school did not meet AYP in math even though the academy did meet AYP in two of the three categories set by the state in math. Only in the category designated by the state as racially "black" did the academy not meet proficiency or safe harbor benchmarks in math. The state's total proficiency goal for 2009-2010 in mathematics was 67.4%. Lift for Life Academy's "black" students scored 26.4% and the overall score was 27.9%.

Lift for Life Academy is very proud of what students have accomplished in Communication Arts this past year and we look forward to making AYP in both Communication Arts and Math next year.

Because the school has been identified for school improvement for at least five years, the school is considered to be in Level 5, Restructuring, Implementation of School Improvement. The district must develop a plan for restructuring the school. One important component of this plan is parent involvement in the development and implementation of the plan.

The Lift for Life Academy school district (115-902) is unable to offer school choice within the district because the district is a single attendance center. The Lift for Life Academy school district exists within the borders of the St. Louis Public Schools. It is the choice of parents and guardians if they desire to withdraw a student from Lift for Life Academy and



enroll them in a St. Louis Public school that has made AYP. It is up to the St. Louis Public School district to determine placement, including any magnet schools.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call David LeMay at 314-231-2337 ext. 234 or feel free to visit us at 1731 South Broadway, Saint Louis, MO, 63104. We will work with you to make sure your child finds a school that fits his/her needs.

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When a school is identified as Level 2 of School Improvement and every subsequent year thereafter it is identified for improvement, Supplemental Educational Services (SES) are available for eligible children. Information about SES and how to obtain services will be coming within the next two weeks to parents of eligible children. All students from low-income families, those that qualify for free or reduced lunch, who attend a Title I school in its second year or above of school improvement are eligible for SES.

Information about public school choice and Supplemental Educational Services (SES) will also be available on the district's website at www.liftforlifeacademy.org. SES information is currently located at the bottom of the web page under the No Child Left Behind section.

We encourage you to become involved with your child's school to support school improvement. Below are a few actions that parents can take to help students.

- *Monitor your child's grades and work completion using Ed-line on the Internet.
- *Contact teachers regularly via phone and e-mail to discuss your child's progress.
- *Create study times nightly that are quiet and free of distraction.
- *Read with your children and discuss what the child is reading.
- *Minimize the amount of time your student plays video games, watches TV, or surfs the Internet. Instead, play a board game, read a magazine article, or do a crossword puzzle together.

On behalf of the administration and teachers, I consider it a great honor to be entrusted with your child's education. If there are any questions concerning this letter or ever any other concerns, please call me at 314-231-2337 or take advantage of our "open-door" policy for parents.

Sincerely,

Katrice Noble, Principal
Lift for Life Academy