

Public School Choice and Supplemental Educational Services

A note to parents about Public School Choice and Supplemental Educational Services for the 2009-2010 School Year:

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) requires schools to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) annual measurable objectives each year in reading/language arts and mathematics. AYP differs from accreditation as it not only requires that each school meet “a total student pass rate” on the Standards of Learning tests but also that students in specific subgroups (White, Black, Hispanic, Students with Disabilities, and Disadvantaged) meet established objectives. There are a total of 29 AYP objectives that must be met. Central, Columbia, and Cunningham elementary schools met 28 of the 29 objectives. Title I schools that do not meet all 29 objectives and do not make AYP for two or more consecutive years are identified as being in School Improvement. Our elementary schools, all Title I schools, are fully accredited but are in School Improvement for the 2009-2010 school year.

Typically, and under NCLB, all students enrolled in a Title I school in School Improvement must be provided the option to enroll in a school not designated for improvement. This transfer option is known as Public School Choice. In our division, our three elementary schools receive the same AYP rating since SOL testing is done in only one school. Therefore, we are unable to offer Public School Choice within our division to our elementary students. We requested that neighboring school divisions work with us on offering transfer options but all of the responses we received denied working with us to provide that option.

Given this situation, our school division made a request to the Virginia Department of Education that our elementary schools be allowed to provide Supplemental Educational Services (SES) without the Public School Choice option. SES are free tutoring services that are provided to eligible students in addition to the instruction they receive during the school day. Detailed information about these services is sent to the parents or guardians of eligible students after program details are established. The Virginia Department of Education provides school divisions with an approved list of SES providers and requires monitoring and reporting of the services by the school division to the state.

Contact Information:

To find out if your child may be eligible for the tutoring services please contact your child's principal or the director of elementary education.

Sarah Pinckney, Principal, Central Elementary School, 589-8318

Sue Davies, Principal, Columbia and Cunningham Elementary Schools, 589-8613 or 842-3197

Allen Cook, Director of elementary education, Fluvanna County School Board Office, 589-8208

Provider Information for the 2009-2010 School Year:

Students who are eligible for Supplemental Educational Services receive tutoring from SES providers approved by the state to serve school divisions. The following address gives detailed information about each Provider.

<https://p1pe.doe.virginia.gov/ses/index.jsp>

Statistics:

Number of Elementary Students Eligible and Participating in Public School Choice and Supplemental Educational Services

Year	Public School Choice: # Students Eligible	Public School Choice: # Students Participating	Supplemental Educational Services: # Students Eligible	Supplemental Educational Services: # Students Participating
2007-2008*	0	0	0	0
2008-2009**	1,636	0-PSC not available	393	77
2009-2010**	1,676	0-PSC not available	414	To be determined

*Elementary Schools were not in School Improvement: PSC and SES not required

**Elementary Schools were in Year 1 School Improvement (Please see *A Note to Parents About Public School Choice and Supplemental Educational Services for the 2009-2010 School Year*). There were no available schools to which students eligible to participate in the Public School Choice option could transfer.

Frequently Asked Questions by Parents of Students Eligible to Receive SES

What are supplemental educational services?

Supplemental educational services are additional academic instructional opportunities designed to increase the student achievement of students in schools in need of assistance. The services may include academic assistance such as tutoring and are aligned with the state's academic standards.

Who is eligible for services?

All students from low-income families who attend Title I schools in Year Two or beyond of school improvement are eligible for services. However, the school division may not have enough funding to serve all eligible students; therefore, priority is given to the lowest-performing students from low-income families.

Who provides the tutoring?

Supplemental educational service providers approved by the Virginia Board of Education offer the services. A list of providers serving your child's division will be provided to you if you have an interest in your child receiving tutoring services.

Where is the tutoring?

Most supplemental educational services take place after school at the school site. However, you will receive a description of the providers and the location soon after your request to be provided information through mail is received.

How much is the tutoring?

Tutoring is free to parents of eligible students and will be paid for by the school division. The school division has a maximum amount of funding available for each student, known as the per pupil expenditure (PPE). The school division can spend this amount or a lesser amount per student as long as the cost is covered.

When is the tutoring?

Tutoring services must be provided outside of the school day. Services will most likely be offered after school but it depends upon the agreement made between the school division and the providers.

How do students get to tutoring?

The school division is not responsible for transportation. Parents are responsible for their child's transportation.

Why should I consider additional assistance for my child?

Tutoring services may help your child be more successful in reading and mathematics. Students will receive extra help in the areas in which they struggle academically. The school and the tutoring provider will establish goals for each student.

How will I know what my child is doing during the tutoring session?

Tutoring providers are required to monitor student achievement and notify a parent of a student's progress.

How do I choose the right tutoring provider for my child?

The school division will send you information about the providers. You will want to consider the services providers offer, the style of delivery (online, one-on-one, group), location, and whether transportation is an issue. Choose a provider that has a program you believe will work for your child.

What if the tutoring is not helping my child?

Parents are encouraged to discuss their child's progress directly with the tutoring provider. However, parents may request a different provider if their child is not having success.

How long is the tutoring program?

A Tutor-Parent Agreement completed for your child will contain the days, times, and duration of the tutoring sessions. The provider should work with the parent to complete this agreement. Tutoring will continue to be offered each year that your child's school is in Year Two or beyond of School Improvement.

For additional information on our student achievement, please take a look at our report card on the Virginia Department of Education's website.

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/src/>

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