

Choices & information for parents

School report cards are available for all parents. These report cards include student test scores, parent surveys, goals and other valuable information. Under NCLB, these report cards will show whether the school made "adequate yearly progress."

Parents of students in Title I schools may ask about the qualifications of their child's teacher. This includes information about the teacher's license, certificate, and college background. Parents may also request information about any paraprofessional working with their child.

If a Title I school does not make adequate yearly progress, the school's federal funds can be used to find other ways to help students achieve. This may mean transferring the student to a better performing school or providing after-school programs like tutoring.

Learn more

To learn more about the No Child Left Behind Act, visit the Anchorage School District Web site at www.asdk12.org or call Title I at 742-4496.

The Anchorage School District believes in success for every child!

Resources on the Internet

Anchorage School District
www.asdk12.org

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development
www.educ.state.ak.us

U.S. Department of Education
www.ed.gov

No Child Left Behind
www.nclb.gov

Anchorage School District

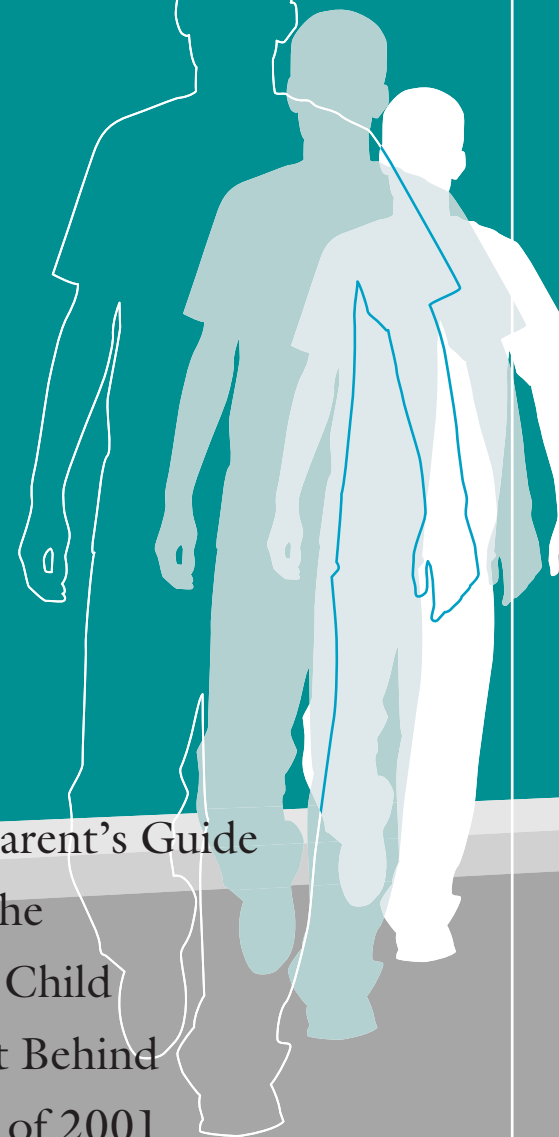
4600 DeBarr Road
Anchorage, AK 99519
(907) 742-4000
www.asdk12.org



Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life

Anchorage School District

Success for Every Child



A Parent's Guide
to the
No Child
Left Behind
Act of 2001

What do I need to know about NCLB?

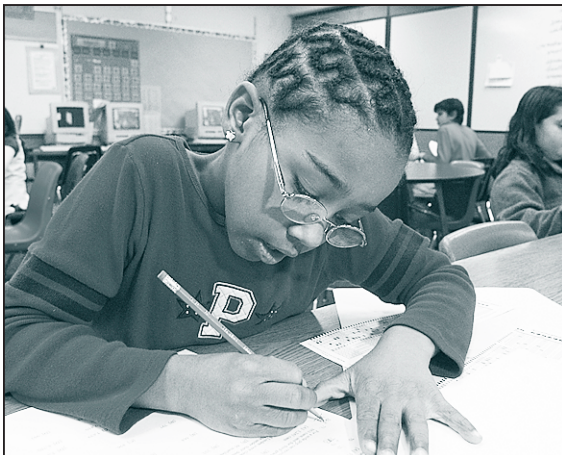
The law is designed to help improve student achievement by setting standards, requiring frequent testing and holding school districts accountable for student performance. There are four guiding principles:

- Schools are expected to teach students using methods proven to be successful.
- Schools and districts must demonstrate that all students are making academic progress.
- Teachers and paraprofessionals (such as classroom aides) must be highly qualified to work with students.
- Parents are given more information and more choices concerning their child's education.

All schools will benefit from the changes brought about by the No Child Left Behind Act, but schools that receive federal funding through Title I will experience the most direct impact.

Using successful methods

The Anchorage School District strives to use “best practices” in the classroom. For example, reading instruction throughout the district is focused on five key elements of teaching reading identified by the National Reading Panel.



The No Child Left Behind Act is a federal law that governs education and is designed to improve student achievement. Your child and his or her school could be affected by this law as early as this year.

Teachers are trained to use these methods. They also track student progress and use the data to decide the best way to teach their students to read. Similar methods are used for math and other subjects.

Schools will continue to use programs that are proven to increase student achievement. These programs can be identified through scientific research.

Accountability

The Anchorage School District and the State of Alaska have a number of tests in place that assess student achievement. The district and state have specific descriptions of what children should learn at each grade and in each subject.

The new law requires districts to test students in reading, writing and math. Science tests must be added by 2007-2008. The results of these tests will be used to determine if students are making academic progress from year to year. This measurement is called “adequate yearly progress” and the exact formula will be developed by the state.

Districts must show that many groups of students are making adequate yearly progress. These groups include low income, minority, bilingual and special education students.

If a school receives Title I funding and does not make adequate yearly progress for two years, the school will be placed in “school improvement” status. There will be sanctions for these schools and parents and students in that school will be given options such as school choice or additional academic support.

Qualified staff

The Anchorage School District only employs teachers that are specially trained and hold a teaching certificate issued by the State of Alaska. NCLB increases the requirements for employees working in schools that receive Title I funding. Under NCLB, those teaching core subjects (in Title I schools) must have a college major in the subject area, pass a rigorous test, or meet criteria specified by a state evaluation. Teaching assistants in Title I schools must have taken numerous college courses or pass a rigorous test.

We are confident that our classroom employees are dedicated and well qualified. The district provides additional training to help employees meet the requirements of NCLB. Some training is done in partnership with local universities.

