



Joliet Township High School – District 204

Dr. Cheryl McCarthy
Superintendent
815/727-6970
Fax: 815/727-1277

Mrs. Karla Guseman
Assistant Superintendent
Educational Services
815/727-6972
Fax: 815/727-1277

Mr. Richard S. Pagliaro
Assistant Superintendent
Business & Personnel
815/727-6960
Fax: 815/774-1600

300 Caterpillar Drive
Joliet, IL 60436
www.jths.org

July 25, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Joliet Township High School is committed to providing a high-quality educational program for your child. We are working hard to provide programs to help all students succeed in our school district.

Your child attends Joliet West High School which receives federal Title I funds. These funds provide help for your child to meet state achievement standards. In the 2010-2011 school year, the scores increased from the previous school year, however, the school did not meet the adequate yearly progress (AYP) targets.

Joliet Township High School is in restructuring, which means we have failed to make adequate yearly progress for at least five years in the same subject and in addition to offering public school choice and supplemental educational services, another action is necessary. Options include reopening as a charter school, replacing all or most of the staff, entering into a contract with an entity, being taken over by the state, and implementing any other major restructuring of the school's governance.

Our district's 2010 report card and the most recent AYP status report for your school show how we compare to other schools in our district and state. These reports are available on our web site at www.jths.org, at your child's school, and at the school district office.

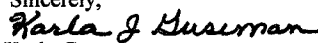
Joliet Township High School has been identified because we have not made adequate yearly progress in reading and mathematics. The district and the State Board of Education are working with your child's school to help improve the academic standards of the school. This is being accomplished by providing technical assistance to the teachers and administrators within your child's school. The school is working to improve its academic program by:

- Implementing the strategic plan with strategic objectives that will shape our growth for the next five years.
- Adopting the Grade Advancement Policy (GAP) and increasing graduation requirements that requires students to accumulate a designated number of credits and pass certain courses in English, math, and science before advancing to the next grade level.
- Implementing a comprehensive school reform model and utilizing Rising Star to create and implement district and school improvement plans that include:
 - small learning communities such as the Freshman Academy and Career Academies;
 - advisor/advisee program;
 - professional development in differentiated instruction and technology; and
 - double periods in math and literacy to provide more time for students to acquire the necessary knowledge and skills.

However, this may not be enough and we want to request your help as the school addresses its academic problems. The school would like to invite parents to serve on the committee that implements the school improvement plans. We would also like to involve parents in addressing the academic issues that caused the school to be identified for school improvement.

The *No Child Left Behind Act* provides you, as a parent, the option to transfer your child to another public school within the district with transportation provided by the district. **However, at this time we do not have a school to which your child can transfer. We have contacted neighboring districts to request that they provide us with school(s) we can offer you as an option. No school district has agreed to do so this school year.**

Please contact the district office at (815) 727-6972 or via e-mail at kguseman@jths.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Karla Guseman
Assistant Superintendent
Educational Services

The mission of Joliet Township High School, a diverse and unified learning community of choice, is to empower every student to acquire and apply the attributes to compete and contribute positively to our community and global society by providing a rigorous, relevant, and innovative education in a safe, supportive, academy environment through a quality, caring, and dedicated staff working in partnership with family and community.

Joliet Township High School ensures equal educational opportunities are offered to students, regardless of race, color, national origin, age, gender, religion, disability, veteran's status, or marital status.