



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

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**Action By:
Information Only**

Contact:
Diana Pilat, PX 21177

TO: All Principals

FROM: Janis Andrews, Ed.D. *JA*
Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND


In February 2012, the U.S. Department of Education approved Florida's request for a flexibility waiver from the Elementary and Secondary Act (ESEA), commonly referred to as No Child Left Behind (NCLB). Florida applied for flexibility with regard to accountability standards such as AYP mandated by the NCLB Act. This waiver moved Florida to a single statewide accountability system that eliminated duplicative regulations making it easier to understand.

As a result of the ESEA waiver the NCLB program is affected as follows:

- The Public School Choice option, that would have allowed the transfer of eligible students under the guidelines of the NCLB Act, will not be an option for the 2012-2013 school year.
- Students previously enrolled in the NCLB program will be "grandfathered" in the program until they complete the highest grade possible for the school they are attending.
- No siblings of "grandfathered" students will be enrolled in the program.
- Once a student completes the highest grade possible at the placed school, they are permanently exited from the program and must be enrolled at the school assigned for their zone of residence.
- Transportation will be provided for students currently enrolled in the NCLB program for the 2012-2013 school year only.
- Information will be sent home with students enrolled in the NCLB program in August 2012, informing parents of the changes in transportation with the NCLB program.

Attached you will find a list of FAQ for staff to refer to regarding the changes to the NCLB program. Distribute to all staff answering NCLB questions.

EWG/JA/JL/PBL/DP/pap
Attachment

Approved: 
E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent

NCLB Public School Choice Option FAQ

Q: *Are there changes with the NCLB Program for the 2012-2013 school year?*

A: Yes. Florida was among 11 states that received a waiver from the key provisions of the NCLB Act. As a result of this waiver, the Public School Choice option that would have allowed the transfer of eligible students is not an option for new students for the 2012-2013 school year.

Q: *Are students who were enrolled in the NCLB Program in previous years still eligible to remain in the program?*

A: Yes. Students who were previously enrolled in the NCLB program will be “grandfathered” in the program until they complete the highest grade possible for the school they are attending. In other words, if a student is currently enrolled in an elementary school, they can remain at that school until they complete grade 5. If a student is enrolled in middle school, they can remain at that school until they complete grade 8. If a student is enrolled in high school, they can remain at that school until they complete grade 12.

Q. *My daughter just completed 8th grade and she was part of the NCLB Program throughout middle school. Since she has been in the program for the past three years, will she be grandfathered in for the 2012-2013 school year when she attends high school?*

A: No. Although you have participated in the NCLB Program for three years, your daughter is not eligible for the program. She completed the highest grade possible in the school she was assigned under the NCLB Program and she has now exited the program. Please plan to register your daughter at the school assigned for your zone of residence/boundary area for the 2012-2013 school year.

Q. *If I un-enrolled my child from the NCLB Program will I be able to re-enroll my child back in the program?*

A: No. Once you un-enroll your child from the program he/she is permanently exited from the program.

Q. My oldest child was placed in his current school through the NCLB program last year. He will be in 8th grade next year. My other child will be going into 6th grade next year. Can she be grandfathered in since her brother is already enrolled in the program?

A: No. The only students that will be grandfathered into the NCLB program are students who are already enrolled in the program. Please register your daughter at the school assigned for your zone of residence/boundary area for the 2012-2013 school year.

Q. It will be very difficult for me to have two children attending two different middle schools. Do I have an option?

A: Yes. You can un-enroll your placed child from the NCLB program and register him in the middle school assigned for your zone of residence/boundary area for the 2012-2013 school year. By doing this, you would then have both children attending the same school. Once you un-enroll your child from the NCLB program, he/she will be permanently exited from the program.

Q. Will transportation be provided for the 2012-2013 school year for children grandfathered in the NCLB program?

A: Yes, transportation will be provided for students already assigned through NCLB for the 2012-2013 school year only. Transportation will not be provided in 2013-2014 and beyond.

Q. Will transportation be provided after the 2012-2013 school year for children grandfathered in the NCLB program?

A: No, transportation will only be provided for the 2012-2013 school year. Information will be sent home with students at the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year updating parents regarding the changes in transportation.