



Dr. Andrew Rikli - Superintendent  
Doug Lewis - Asst. Superintendent Business Services  
Dr. Renee Hyde - Asst. Superintendent Human Resources  
Dr. Ron Hanson - Asst. Superintendent Curriculum & Instruction

August, 2013

Dear Parent or Guardian:

At Carriage Hill Elementary, we take great pride in the educational opportunities and programs we are able to provide for our children. Our staff is truly committed to the success of every student. We focus each and every day on the individual needs of each child and how we can help him/her reach his/her personal excellence. Our purpose is to prepare every student for success through superior education programs delivered by highly effective educators who use innovative, research-based strategies in a safe and supportive environment in collaboration with family and community members. Our teachers and staff members work very hard to meet the needs of all students.

In spite of the progress made by most of our students, Carriage Hill Elementary School did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for three consecutive years. This is a labeling system required of schools by the federal government under the No Child Left Behind law. We are disappointed that Carriage Hill is labeled as needs improvement. The staff, students, and parents are proud of the fact that in each grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> in both Reading and Math, students at Carriage Hill scored above the state average. Out of the 55 subgroups and evaluation categories in Reading, Carriage Hill is “not met” in one category and that was for reading scores for students with special education needs. Out of the 55 subgroups and categories in math, Carriage Hill students met each of the targets.

We have a focused school improvement plan and are pleased with the progress all of our students have made. In fact, this subgroup made an 11% increase in state performance in reading in 2011-12. In 2012-13, the proficiency of students with disabilities increased from 50% to 70% in reading – a 20% gain. We are celebrating two consecutive years of improvement!

The teachers and staff at Carriage Hill Elementary have been, and continue to implement strategies to improve student achievement with an emphasis on reading with all students. The table on the following page displays the percent of students meeting or exceeding the standards on the state tests. Additional information about how Carriage Hill Elementary compares to other schools in our district, as well as throughout the State, is available on the following Nebraska Department of Education website: <http://reportcard.education.ne.gov/Default.aspx>.

With all of the public attention being focused on Nebraska State Assessment (NeSA), it is important to keep the results in perspective. NeSA is just one piece of data used to make decision in the Papillion-La Vista School District. To gain a true picture on student achievement one must also look at District Assessments and standardized achievement test. The staff at Carriage Hill Elementary focuses on what matters - - students! When preparing students to be on the right path for college, career, and citizenship readiness, the focus is on more than test results - it is on the whole child. If we want to use assessment results to reflect true student mastery of content, we had better make sure that our kids are healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged, or we will likely be assessing something else and, potentially, making inefficient and ineffective decisions based on results that don't mean what we think they do. The Carriage Hill staff is focusing on what matters – the whole child, not just test scores.

As parents or guardians, there are things you can continue to do to strengthen the academic achievement of your child. We believe that establishing high expectations for your child, supporting the school in its efforts to maintain appropriate behavior, instilling in your child a positive attitude toward learning, making sure that your child attends school regularly (especially on testing days), communicating regularly with the teachers of your child, supporting your student in reading nightly, and setting aside time for homework will give your child the best opportunity for success.

A requirement for schools at this AYP status is to inform all parents of Carriage Hill Elementary students of “Public School Choice”. In compliance with the requirements of the NCLB statute, parents/guardians have the option of “Public School Choice”. This states that parents/guardians are eligible to transfer their child to another school within

the district that has not been designated as "Needs Improvement". The district will provide transportation for student(s) of parents choosing "Public School Choice". Students may transfer to Trumble Park or Rumsey Station.

As a Needs Improvement School for two years, Carriage Hill is offering Supplemental Educational Services (SES) to any student who is eligible for free and reduced lunch. Applications will be accepted starting October 23<sup>rd</sup>. If more eligible students sign up for SES than can be funded, priority will be given to students with the greatest academic need. A list of groups providing Supplemental Educational Services in our area is included with this letter.

Parents who choose to have their children participate in SES or "Public School Choice" are asked to contact Deb Rodenburg, Director of Elementary Curriculum at (402) 537-6226 to enroll. Once notice has been received, for either we will make enrollment arrangements as quickly as possible and will notify parents upon approval.

We welcome your involvement at Carriage Hill Elementary School. There are many ways to participate including offering your input to the School Improvement Team, volunteering, and attending parent conferences with your child's teacher(s). Carriage Hill Elementary School will hold the annual Title I meeting to develop our parent involvement policy and to review parent rights under Title I and other information on November 7, following the PTO meeting at 6:30 p.m. . The Title I district-wide parent involvement policy was reviewed this past year and will again be reviewed at this upcoming year. You are welcome to be a part of that review process.

Please review the information in the table below for academic achievement levels of other schools in this district and feel free to consult with me during this decision process. We are looking forward to continuous improvement for all of our students. Please continue to work with the Carriage Hill team to make sure we achieve success for all students.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kelcy Tapp,  
Principal, Carriage Hill Elementary

Supplemental Education Service Provider Options

Provider Name	Based in Papillion-La Vista	Available at Carriage Hill	In Person (not web-based only)	Only uses PLV curriculum and teachers
Abacus In-Home Tutoring, Inc.	No	Not currently	Yes	No
Above and Beyond Learning, Inc.	No	Not currently	Yes	No
ATS Project Success	No	No	No	No
Club Z! In-Home Tutoring Service, Inc.	No	Not currently	Yes	No
Educational Service Unit 6	No	Not currently	Yes	No
Eduss Learning	No	Not currently	No	No
Envision Learning, LLC	No	No	No	No
Learn it System, LLC	No	No	No	No
One on One Learning Center	No	Not Currently	Yes	No
Sylvan Learning	No	No	Yes	No
1 to 1 Tutoring	No	Not currently	Yes	No

2011-2012	Reading	Math	Writing
Anderson Grove	86.75%	83.5%	98%
Bell	84.5%	80.5%	97%
Carriage Hill	82.5%	79.75%	94%
Golden Hills	85%	76.75%	100%
G Stanley Hall	90%	85.75%	100%
Hickory Hill	81.75%	73.75%	94%
La Vista West	86.25%	77.25%	98%
Patriot	91%	86.75%	99%
Portal	86%	85.5%	98%
Parkview Heights	75%	63%	94%
Rumsey Station	86.5%	90.5%	99%
Tara Heights	90.75%	86.25%	98%
Trumble Park	87%	86.25%	95%
Walnut Creek	82%	70.5%	100%
2012-2013	Reading	Math	Writing
Anderson Grove	91.97%	84.67%	85%
Bell	90.21%	78.72%	81%
Carriage Hill	89.37%	87.01%	81%
Golden Hills	86.36%	78.36%	84%
G Stanley Hall	88.50%	83%	75%
Hickory Hill	81.25%	78.13%	77%
La Vista West	79.56%	70.72%	73%
Patriot	90.36%	91.43%	89%
Portal	90.42%	87.72%	89%
Parkview Heights	83.90%	80.08%	76%
Rumsey Station	89.19%	89.58%	91%
Tara Heights	90.13%	80.26%	95%
Trumble Park	86.08%	84.39%	84%
Walnut Creek	82.25%	78.74%	84%

#### A.Y.P. Status Decisions

	Reading Proficient	Reading Basic	Math Proficient	Math Basic	Writing Proficient
All Students	MET	MET	MET	MET	MET
American Indian	-	-	-	-	-
Asian	-	-	-	-	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-
Native Hawaiian	-	-	-	-	-
2 or more races	-	-	-	-	-
White	MET	MET	MET	MET	MET
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-
ELL	-	-	-	-	-
Sp Ed	NOT MET	MET	MET	MET	MET
C & R	MET	MET	MET	MET	MET

A.Y.P. Status Decision for Consecutive Years of Progress =  
NEEDS IMPROVEMENT