

November 2009

Dear Delcastle Parent/Guardian:

Recently you received a letter from the Department of Education (DOE) indicating that the NCCVT School District did not meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) as defined through the State's Accountability System and, consequently, is considered "Under Improvement." Making AYP is determined by specific student groups having met certain targets on the Delaware Student Testing Program (DSTP). My purpose in writing to you is to share important school and district information so you have a better understanding of what AYP means relative to your son or daughter's education at Delcastle Technical High School.

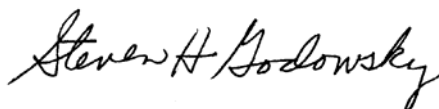
Delcastle, a school of 1,502 students, made AYP last year, meeting all student group targets; however, to be removed from "Under Improvement" status, all student groups must make AYP progress for two consecutive years. A review of the school's DSTP scores following last spring's testing shows that the school exceeded the statewide DSTP scores for meeting standards in science, reading, mathematics, and writing, significantly in the latter two testing areas (see attached school profile report).

Delcastle's administration and faculty are working diligently with the school district to offer high quality instructional programs and services. These programs and services support student achievement for all students, with special focus on those individuals who score below State proficiency levels. Such initiatives include, but are not limited to, enhanced 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade literacy and problem-solving strategies, increased use of instructional technology, research-based remedial reading series, doubling-up of math courses at 9<sup>th</sup> grade, free after-school and Saturday tutoring, and additional learning coach specialists.

As a school district, we accept full responsibility for educating all students and should be held accountable for their success. Our record in academic, career, and school climate speaks for itself; however, it was important for us to share that record with you, our parents, who have chosen our schools for your children.

Should you have any questions regarding the State accountability rating system and the school district's efforts, contact me at 995-8051. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven H. Godowsky". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'S'.

Steven H. Godowsky, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

**DELCASTLE TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL**  
 1417 Newport Road, Wilmington, DE 19804  
 Principal: Joseph Jones

phone: (302) 995-8100

**Total High School Enrollment (9/30/2009)** 1513

**2009 Accountability Status**

Rating	Academic Progress
Under Improvement Status	Improvement Year 2 (Title I School)
Adequate Yearly Progress	Meets Target 12 of 12 NCLB student subgroups met the target
State Progress Determination	Below Target

**Comparison to District and State Results:**

<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>DISTRICT</b>	<b>STATE</b>
Delcastle	NCCVT	Delaware

**2009 Delaware Student Testing Program**

**% students meeting the state standard**

GRADE 10 MATH	67%	58%	56%
GRADE 10 READING	73%	71%	71%
GRADE 10 WRITING	91%	89%	84%
GRADE 11 SCIENCE	65%	62%	60%
GRADE 11 SOCIAL STUDIES	41%	44%	46%

**2008-2009 School Year**

**Average Daily Percent Attendance**

GRADES 9-12	95%	95%	92%
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**Discipline Measures**

school crime rate (per 9-12 enrollment)	0.005	0.006	0.016
DOE offense rate (per 9-12 enrollment)	0.035	0.034	0.066
suspension rate (per 9-12 enrollment)	0.120	0.157	0.905
% students suspended (grades 9-12)	9%	11%	25%

**Cooperative Employment**

% seniors employed in related co-op	67%	61%	NA
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