

November 2009

Dear Howard 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 the Howard High School of Technology.

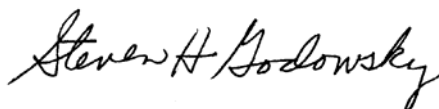
Howard, a school of 863 students, did not make AYP in the 2008-09 school year, and is rated as "Under Improvement;" however, they did make AYP the year before and individual test score analyses show improvement over previous results, especially for lower performing students. To be removed from "Under Improvement" status, all student groups must make AYP progress for two consecutive years. A school profile report with DSTP scores and other comparative information is attached for your information.

Howard's administration and faculty are working diligently with the 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 9th and 10th grade literacy and problem-solving strategies, increased use of instructional technology, research-based remedial reading series, doubling-up of math courses at 9th 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,



Steven H. Godowsky, Ed.D.
Superintendent

HOWARD HIGH SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

401 East 12th. Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

Principal: Evelyn Edney

phone: (302) 571-5400

Total High School Enrollment (9/30/2009) 860

2009 Accountability Status

Rating	Academic Watch
Under Improvement Status	Improvement Year 2 (Title I School)
Adequate Yearly Progress*	Below Target 2 of 8 NCLB student subgroups met the target
State Progress Determination	Below Target

*Note that all Adequate Yearly Progress targets were met in 2008

Comparison to District and State Results:

SCHOOL	DISTRICT	STATE
Howard	NCCVT	Delaware

2009 Delaware Student Testing Program

% students meeting the state standard

GRADE 10 MATH	40%	58%	56%
GRADE 10 READING	59%	71%	71%
GRADE 10 WRITING	85%	89%	84%
GRADE 11 SCIENCE	42%	62%	60%
GRADE 11 SOCIAL STUDIES	35%	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)	0.031	0.034	0.066
suspension rate (per 9-12 enrollment)	0.326	0.157	0.905
% students suspended (grades 9-12)	21%	11%	25%

Cooperative Employment

% seniors employed in related co-op	53%	61%	NA
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