

November 2009

Dear St. Georges 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 St. Georges.

St. Georges, a school of 1,002 students, missed AYP by one student group (mathematics). For the 2007-08 school year, St. Georges' rating was "superior." 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 reading and writing (see attached school profile report). DSTP science and social studies assessments given in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade indicate that St. Georges' students performed above the State average for meeting proficiency standards for both content areas.

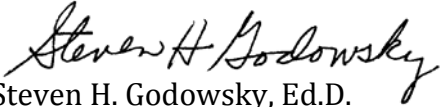
Overall, our district high schools performed well compared to other New Castle County and Delaware high schools. Delcastle Technical High School is "under improvement;" however, Delcastle made AYP last year and exceeds the State average in reading, math, and writing. Howard High School of Technology did not meet AYP last year and is rated as "under improvement;" however, they did meet AYP the year before and test scores do show improvement over previous results, especially for low performing students. Hodgson Vocational-Technical High School is rated as "commendable," meeting all student group targets.

St. Georges' 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, doubling-up of mathematics 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,

  
Steven H. Godowsky, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

**ST. GEORGES TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL**  
 555 Hyetts Corner Road, Middletown, DE 19709  
 Principal: Terri Villa

phone: (302) 449-3600

**Total High School Enrollment (9/30/2009)** 1002

**2009 Accountability Status**

Rating	Academic Review
Under Improvement Status	Not Under Improvement
Adequate Yearly Progress	Below Target
State Progress Determination	Below Target

7 of 8 NCLB student subgroups met the target

**Comparison to District and State Results:**

<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>DISTRICT</b>	<b>STATE</b>
St. Georges	NCCVT	Delaware

**2009 Delaware Student Testing Program**

**% students meeting the state standard**

GRADE 10 MATH	50%	58%	56%
GRADE 10 READING	74%	71%	71%
GRADE 10 WRITING	85%	89%	84%
GRADE 11 SCIENCE	70%	62%	60%
GRADE 11 SOCIAL STUDIES	54%	44%	46%

**2008-2009 School Year**

**Average Daily Percent Attendance**

GRADES 9-12	95%	95%	92%
-------------	-----	-----	-----

**Discipline Measures**

school crime rate (per 9-12 enrollment)	0.011	0.006	0.016
DOE offense rate (per 9-12 enrollment)	0.037	0.034	0.066
suspension rate (per 9-12 enrollment)	0.094	0.157	0.905
% students suspended (grades 9-12)	7%	11%	25%

**Cooperative Employment**

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