

Shaker Regional School District
BELMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
26 BEST STREET
BELMONT, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03220
Be Responsible, Everyone Respectful, Safety First
www.shaker.k12.nh.us

PRINCIPAL
 EMILY SPEAR
espear@shaker.k12.nh.us

NEW HAMPSHIRE'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE 2002

PHONE 267-6568
 FAX 267-6136

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
 ALISON ROBERTS
aroberts@shaker.k12.nh.us

July 11, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians of Belmont Elementary School Students:

I am writing to inform you that Belmont Elementary School has been identified by the New Hampshire Department of Education as a school in need of improvement in the area of reading. This notice will also describe the school choice option parents/guardians have for their children and our plans for improved performance for all children.

In January of 2002 President Bush signed a new education law called *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB). The long-range goal of NCLB is that every child will be proficient in reading and mathematics according to a state's academic standards. Belmont Elementary School has not made the state target goal in reading for two consecutive years, which is why we have been identified as a school in need of improvement.

Under the *No Child Left Behind Act* each Title I school identified as a "School in Need of Improvement" is required to provide public school choice. For the 2011-2012 school year, you may choose to have your child attend Canterbury Elementary School. Transportation will be provided by the district.

If you would like to transfer your child to Canterbury Elementary School (CES), please let me know by submitting the attached form. The deadline for choice requests is August 1, 2011. NCLB has mandated a method for schools to use to determine how to prioritize which students can exercise school choice if we have more students requesting a transfer than we are capable of handling.

Comparative data for the state and across the district on the 2010 NECAP Reading Test is below.

School Name/State	Percent of Students Substantially Below Proficient	Percent of Students Partially Proficient	Percent of Students Proficient	Percent of Students Proficient with Distinction	AYP Status In Rading
State of NH	7%	17%	56%	21%	NA
BES	10%	13%	61%	16%	No
CES	3%	4%	56%	37%	Yes

Our school is working closely with district and NH Department of Education representatives to be able to identify key areas for improvement. Several improvement initiatives are underway.

As a parent you are also a critical partner in school improvement. All of us working together will ensure the development of a successful improvement plan and improve the quality of the education we provide for all of our students. If you are interested in helping in the improvement process, please call the school at **267-6568** or send an **email** to me at espear@shaker.k12.nh.us.

I look forward to working with you to provide opportunities for success for each of our students. We anticipate that our detailed plan for improvement will be available in the school office by September 2011. Please contact the school if you would like to have a copy mailed to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily Spear". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Emily Spear

Principal, Belmont Elementary School