

# Belmont Middle School

38 School Street

Belmont, NH 03220

(603) 267-9220 • FAX (603) 267-9228

Aaron Pope  
Principal

Timothy S. Saunders  
Assistant Principal

*Serving the Communities of Belmont & Canterbury*

Annette R. Blake  
Guidance Counselor

Julie A. Cascio  
Guidance Counselor

July 13, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians of Belmont Middle School Students:

I am writing to inform you that Belmont Middle School has been identified by the New Hampshire Department of Education as a “School in Need of Improvement, year 3 corrective action” in the area of mathematics. Belmont Middle School did meet the expectations for whole school accountability, but missed the target in one of the sub groups. 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 Middle School has not made the state target goal in math for four 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 from the following two schools: Belmont Middle School and Canterbury Elementary School. Transportation will be provided by the district.

If you would like to transfer your child to the Canterbury Elementary School (CES) 5<sup>th</sup> grade, please let me know by contacting the middle school. The deadline for receiving this is August 1, 2011. NCLB has a 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 across the district on the 2010 NECAP Math test for the middle school grade level(s) is:

School Name	Percent of Students Substantially Below Proficient	Percent of Students Partially Proficient	Percent of Students Proficient	Percent of Students Proficient with Distinction	AYP Status In Math
BMS	14%	19%	45%	22%	NO
CES	0%	3%	33%	63%	YES
STATE	14%	17%	45%	23%	

# Belmont Middle School

38 School Street

Belmont, NH 03220

(603) 267-9220 • FAX (603) 267-9228

**Aaron Pope**  
Principal

**Timothy S. Saunders**  
Assistant Principal

*Serving the Communities of Belmont & Canterbury*

**Annette R. Blake**  
Guidance Counselor

**Julie A. Cascio**  
Guidance Counselor

Currently the school is involved in three major initiatives to meet the needs of our students. Working closely with district and NH Department of Education representatives, we have identified key areas for improvement which we plan on implementing in three ways:

- The implementation of a researched based intervention program for struggling students
- New k-8 mathematics program
- Rigorous curriculum work in all areas

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 let me know by calling the school, sending me an email or dropping into the office.

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 1, 2011. Please contact the school if you would like us to mail you a copy.

Sincerely,

Aaron Pope  
Principal

-----  
-SINI Parent Letter-

Please return this portion if you would like to transfer your child to the Canterbury Elementary School 5<sup>th</sup> grade by August 1, 2011.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_