



## Academic Services

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Glendale, Arizona 85304  
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*The Washington Elementary School District is committed to achieving excellence for every child, every day, every opportunity.*

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### Maryland School Parent Notification Letter School Improvement (SI) Parent Option Letter

October 1, 2013

This notice is to provide information about requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), formerly known as No Child Left Behind. The purpose of ESEA is to improve educational opportunities for all children attending a Title I school. This federally funded program provides assistance to schools serving students who are at risk for academic failure. This legislation supports school district's efforts to provide a strong standards-based educational program for students along with accountability for student achievement. Some low-performing schools will receive a federal label of either Focus or Priority, with Priority being the more critical of the two labels. The Washington Elementary School District has no schools identified as Priority. Additionally, Arizona law has its own accountability system that designates schools with a letter grade from A through F. This will help parents better understand how our schools are performing academically.

1. Our school's state label is: C
2. Our school's federal label is: Focus. This is due to the low performance of and gaps between certain sub-groups of students.

The following chart provides a comparison of our school to other elementary or secondary schools in our district and in the state as required by the ESEA Flexibility Request:

Grade	Maryland	WESD	Arizona Schools	Maryland	WESD	Arizona Schools
	% Proficient in Math, based on 2013 AIMS	% Proficient in Math, based on 2013 AIMS	% Proficient in Math, based on 2013 AIMS	% Proficient in Reading, based on 2013 AIMS	% Proficient in Reading, based on 2013 AIMS	% Proficient in Reading, based on 2013 AIMS
3	33	55	68	49	66	75
4	39	54	64	59	68	77
5	35	50	63	63	72	79
6	37	54	63	64	75	80
7	37	53	65	75	81	85
8	26	47	58	51	68	72

Since Maryland Elementary School operates a Title I program and has a federal Focus status, you have the option of Public School Choice with free transportation to another school in our District not identified as Focus.

Parents choosing to transfer their child have the following choice of schools: Orangewood School, Richard E. Miller Elementary School or Royal Palm Middle School.

Attached is a list of information about these schools and how they compare to other schools in the District. Please complete the attached form and return it to your current school office by October 18, 2013 to let us know which school you would like your child to attend.

Please contact Linda McKeever, Title I Administrator at 602-347-2680 should you need assistance in selecting a school.

### **School Improvement Plan**

We have been working with the District and the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to revise the Continuous Improvement Plan for Maryland. In order to address the indicators that led to our Focus status, the District and ADE are assisting this school in:

- Providing support in developing/revising our Continuous Improvement Plan (e.g., leadership mentoring, high-quality ongoing professional development, research-based interventions);
- Coordinating resources (e.g., instructional and non-instructional staff, state and federal funding); and
- Assisting with addressing families' needs and building a collaborative relationship with the school community.

The school has implemented the following strategies/programs to address the achievement of all students:

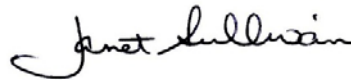
- Best First Instruction using the WESD RTI Roadmap framework to include collaborative lesson planning among teachers at grade levels to increase consistency in practice, ongoing measurement of outcomes, comparison of assessment data, and implementation of effective delivery of instruction in Reading and Math;
- Data analysis to address mastery of Reading and Math standards by all student subgroups;
- Response to Intervention that includes a multi-tiered instructional support system with students receiving 90 minutes of direct instruction in Tier 1 Reading including small group instruction and additional Tier 2 and/or 3 interventions for students needing additional intervention support;
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century after school classes to include targeted students needing intervention support; and
- Professional Development on an ongoing basis by math and literacy coaches to include modeling, collaborative planning, co-teaching, observation of peers and side-by-side coaching to provide support for purposeful and effective instruction in Reading and Math.

We encourage all parents/ guardians to become involved by participating in the development of the Continuous Improvement Plan. Please contact Rebecch Potavin at 602-347-2300 if you are interested in being part of a committee or would like more information about our school.

Educationally yours,



Rebecch Potavin  
School Principal



Federal Programs Coordinator,  
Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services

## Request to Transfer Schools

Your child’s school was identified as a school in need of improvement under Title I of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*. As a result, you have the right to request that your child be transferred to a school that has not been identified as a school in need of improvement. The District will review all applications and will notify parents of the transfer approval and subsequent transportation schedule for the new school. Once a student has transferred to a school that is not in improvement, he/she can remain enrolled at that school until he/she completes the highest grade at that school. However, if the student’s original school improves and is no longer in school improvement, the District may discontinue transportation.

**If you choose to transfer your child, please return this form to the current school office by October 18, 2013 to let us know which school you would like your child to attend.**

District schools **that have not been identified as schools in need of improvement and are available to receive transfers:**

Orangewood School  
7337 N. 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85021

Richard E. Miller Elementary School  
2021 W. Alice  
Phoenix, AZ 85021

Royal Palm Middle School  
8520 N. 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85021

The table below shows the AIMS data for these schools.

Grade	Maryland	Orangewood	Richard E. Miller	Royal Palm	Maryland	Orangewood	Richard E. Miller	Royal Palm
	% Proficient in Math, based on 2013 AIMS	% Proficient in Math, based on 2013 AIMS	% Proficient in Math, based on 2013 AIMS	% Proficient in Math, based on 2013 AIMS	% Proficient in Reading, based on 2013 AIMS	% Proficient in Reading, based on 2013 AIMS	% Proficient in Reading, based on 2013 AIMS	% Proficient in Reading, based on 2013 AIMS
3	33	53	48		49	60	48	
4	39	49	43		59	72	43	
5	35	61	40		63	76	40	
6	37	55		38	64	76		62
7	37	62		54	75	77		82
8	26	31		40	51	57		65

**Request for School Transfer – Please Print Clearly**

Student’s Name \_\_\_\_\_

Current School: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom Teacher’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_, AZ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to transfer my child to \_\_\_\_\_  
(name of school from the list above)

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Please contact Linda McKeever at (602) 347-2680 with any questions regarding this request to transfer your child.*

**School Office Personnel: Please send this to Linda McKeever, Administrator for Title I – Academic Services**