



325 W. 12th Street, Dallas, TX 75208 (214) 944-1985 (214) 944-1930 Fax www.AmericaCan.org
Giving Young Americans A Second Chance

August 24, 2007

Dear Parent/Guardian/Adult Student:

Our goal in the Texans Can! Charter School district (Austin Can!, Dallas Can!, Ft Worth Can!, Houston Can!, and San Antonio Can!) is to educate all of our students to help them become a productive citizen and community member. We strive to prepare our children for tomorrow's world – whether it's to further their education by pursuing post secondary education or through employment. One measure of our success is related to the statewide accountability measures. In Texas, we are rated under two accountability measures, one at the state level and the other at the federal level.

At the state level, traditional schools are rated under the Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS). Due to the population we serve, we are rated at the state level under the Alternative Education Accountability (AEA) system. Our state accountability rating was released to us this month. Due to our students, parents and staff's hard work and perseverance, all Texans Can! campuses have made great gains. Thanks to all of you for all your hard work.

The second area of accountability is at the federal level. In August, the Texans Can! Charter School district, along with all districts in Texas were notified of their status in relation to the federal legislation known as the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001" (NCLB). This status, called "Adequate Yearly Progress," is a key part of NCLB. Due to our grade configuration, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) status is determined by the number of tenth grade students meeting or exceeding state academic standards in reading, writing and math – plus test participation and graduation rates.

How does AYP differ from our AEA ratings reported in the annual Texas School Report Card you receive from us each year? Texas issues its annual report card for schools and districts based on overall test scores, participation rates and other data from all students. AYP status is determined using much of the same information; however, data from student subgroups may potentially cause the entire school to be designated as "needing to improve" to meet AYP as defined by federal law.

What happens if we do not meet AEIS/AEA or AYP? Schools that are rated not acceptable are required to address the areas targeted for improvement by working with students, parents, and staff. Attached you will find additional communications related to accountability in our schools. In addition, we will continue to notify you of our status and interventions. We are always looking for volunteers to collaborate with us, if you would like to participate in this process, please contact our central office or your campus Principal.

Our preliminary ratings based on the 06-07 data for the current school year are:

San Antonio Can! District

AEA: Acceptable

AYP: Missed: Reading Performance, Math Performance, and Graduation Rate

Title One School Improvement: Stage 2

Our Mission Statement is to provide a second chance for at-risk youth and their families to achieve economic independence and hope for a better life through relationship-based education and training.

San Antonio Can! Campus

AEA: Acceptable

AYP: Missed: Reading Performance, Math Performance, and Graduation Rate

Title One School Improvement: Stage 2

While we have made great gains, we still have a long way to go and you play a big role in educating your student. It is through home support and an emphasis on education that together we will continue to strive for excellence. Last year found us improving by leaps and bounds. However, this year the push is still on to continue our advances. So now more than ever we need your support and hard work. Thank you for your continued interest in your child's education.

Please feel free to contact me or your campus level administration to assist you:

[San Antonio - 210-923-1226](tel:210-923-1226)

Veronica Hernandez- Principal

Paul Krause- Assistant Principal of Curriculum, & Instruction

Geneva Rico- Assistant Principal of Curriculum & Instruction

Sincerely,



Karlyn Strickland

Assistant Superintendent

Accountability, Compliance and Special Populations