

November 20th, 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Pine Point School is dedicated to providing all students with an excellent education so that each child can succeed in school and in life. To ensure your child's success, we have set high standards that are reflected in what is taught in our classrooms. In the coming school year we will look at multiple assessment measures that indicate how our school is succeeding. We are also working closely with the Northern Sky Regional Centers of Excellence on the school improvement process. This will ensure that we reach our goal of all children succeeding in school and in life.

This year the Pine Point School has been designated a Priority School under the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This is the result of the school being among the five percent of Title I schools with the lowest performance on the state's Multiple Measurement Rating (MMR), which measures school performance on student proficiency, academic growth, achievement gap reduction and, for high schools, graduation rates.

Under ESEA, Priority Schools must use student performance data to undergo a needs assessment. A needs assessment is a systematic process whereby we analyze school data in order to make decisions on how to improve the school. We will undertake that process in the coming weeks and months, and will use the results of the needs assessment to create a school improvement plan aimed at helping all students reach their full potential. In order to accomplish this important work, we will put together a leadership team which includes a variety of stakeholders, including parents. You are highly encouraged to be a member of the improvement team; if you are interested call Chris Schulz at 218-573-4102.

Your engagement and support in your child's education is critical to his or her success. Contact your child's teacher(s) with how you can best support the work they are doing in the classroom. All staff email addresses and the school phone numbers are posted on our school's website. The Pine Point School will also be offering several activities for you to be engaged in your child's education.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Elementary Events</b>
August/September	Back to Orientation
August/September	Family Survey/needs assessment
September	Parent/Teacher Conferences
October	Fall Festival/Family Fun Day
November	Thanksgiving Feast
December	Awards Day – Christmas Program
January	Reading and Math Strategies I Can Use at Home Newsletter
February	Preparing Your Child for Testing
February	Parent/Teacher Conferences
March	Family Fun Day
April	Transition: Elementary to Middle School
April	Transition: Preschool to K, What to Expect in Elementary School
May	Family Fun Day
June	Awards Day – Kindergarten/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation

We know not all parents can come to every event but you can still be engaged and support your child's education through steps like providing a quiet place for your child to do homework or read, limiting screen time, and talking with your student about school. Also, remember that students between 5-12 years old need 10-12 hours of sleep each night; adolescents need 10 hours of sleep.

We are looking forward to a great year. You can be involved by volunteering at the school or participating on one of the school improvement committees. Please contact the school at 218-573-4100.

Sincerely,

Christopher Schulz  
Principal