



Our Future, Our Commitment, Our Students

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **AYP release leaves local school officials frustrated, still optimistic**

Several hiccups in communication between federal and state departments of education left local schools holding an almost empty bag Tuesday after Department of Public Instruction promised the release of reading testing results first Monday then Tuesday.

And what was eventually released didn't make Franklin County Schools' administrators very happy.

Four Franklin County Schools did not meet 100 percent of their reading objectives this year:

Louisburg Elementary, Franklinton Elementary, Bunn Middle and Bunn High.

"The overall goal of 'No Child Left Behind' is *exactly* our goal," said FCS superintendent Dr. Bert L'Homme. "We are committed to the success of every student in our school system. *Every single one.*

"In fact, we are making considerable progress toward that goal. Reading scores improved in all of our schools last year, so it is extremely frustrating that some politicians in Washington have enacted a law attaching negative labels to schools that are working hard against long odds and are achieving significant improvement."

The release of "AYP" results for 2005-06 could be of significant impact to both schools and students in Franklin County. AYP, or Adequate Yearly Progress, is part of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, a federal program of school improvement tied to federal funding of local schools.

NCLB sets annual goals for every school toward its primary goal of 100 percent of students on grade level in reading and math by 2013-14. Every school must meet every incremental goal in every subgroup of students each year to earn its "adequate yearly progress" (AYP). Subgroups include white, black, Hispanic, native American, Asian, multiracial, economically disadvantaged, limited English proficient, and students with disabilities.

This is the second year Louisburg Elementary and Franklinton Elementary have not met AYP. Under NCLB regulations, a school that does not meet AYP two years in a row must offer parents the option of transferring their children to another school within the district. Because Franklin County is under a Federal desegregation court order, however, that step is not automatic here.

"We will comply with our current court order," said Board attorney Boyd Sturges, "which requires us to bring any major student reassignment to the judge for consideration. That, certainly, will be our first step."

The subgroups in each of the five schools that did not meet goals will not be released until August.

"Despite the negative label NCLB attaches to these schools, we are optimistic about our progress in reading," L'Homme said. "We know these are good schools and we know we are moving in the right direction. Are we there yet? No.

"But we're on our way."

LEA: 350 Franklin County Schools  
10 school(s) (or 71.4%) out of 14 made Adequate Yearly Progress

School: 304 Bunn Elementary  
School made Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 9 (or 100.0%) out of 9 target goals

School: 308 Bunn High  
School did not make Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 14 (or 82.4%) out of 17 target goals

School: 310 Bunn Middle  
School did not make Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 11 (or 91.7%) out of 12 target goals

School: 312 Cedar Creek Middle  
School made Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 11 (or 100.0%) out of 11 target goals

School: 316 Edward Best Elementary  
School made Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 9 (or 100.0%) out of 9 target goals

School: 318 Franklinton Elementary  
School did not make Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 7 (or 77.8%) out of 9 target goals

School: 321 Franklinton High  
School made Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 17 (or 100.0%) out of 17 target goals

School: 330 Laurel Mill Elementary  
School made Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 9 (or 100.0%) out of 9 target goals

School: 332 Louisburg Elementary  
School did not make Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 8 (or 80.0%) out of 10 target goals

School: 336 Louisburg High  
School made Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 17 (or 100.0%) out of 17 target goals

School: 337 Riverside Elementary Magnet  
School made Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 1 (or 100.0%) out of 1 target goals

School: 338 Terrell Lane Middle  
School made Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 12 (or 100.0%) out of 12 target goals

School: 339 Royal Elementary  
School made Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 9 (or 100.0%) out of 9 target goals

School: 340 Youngsville Elementary  
School made Adequate Yearly Progress  
School met 9 (or 100.0%) out of 9 target goals