



# Limestone Community High School

District No. 310

---

4201 South Airport Road, Bartonville, Illinois 61607-2199 (309) 697-6271

October 2013

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Limestone Community High School is committed to providing a high-quality educational program for your child. We are working hard to provide programs to help all students succeed in our school district.

Limestone Community High School receives Federal Title I funds. These funds provide help for your child to meet State achievement standards. In the 2012-2013 school year, the school only met adequate yearly progress (AYP) safe harbor reading targets in the white subgroup; the school did not meet the AYP safe harbor targets in reading or mathematics for any of our other subgroups (all, white, and economically disadvantaged). Limestone Community High School is in “restructuring implementation”, which means the school has failed to make adequate yearly progress for at least 5 years in the same subject and in addition to offering public school choice and supplemental educational services, another action is necessary. Options include reopening as a charter school, replacing all or most of the staff, entering into a contract with an entity, being taken over by the state, and implementing any other major restructuring of the school’s governance.

Last year, Limestone Community High School made a major change in the school schedule with the implementation of the new fourth period Rocket Academy. This 30-minute period provides Tier 1 and Tier 2 interventions by providing academic support to all students. In addition, Limestone implemented the Learning Resource Center (LRC) and peer tutoring as a means of providing Tier 2 interventions of support for students. To meet the academic needs of all students, NWEA Measurements of Academic Progress (MAP) testing data is used to place students in courses with the appropriate rigor.

Our district’s 2013 report card (available September/October 2013) and the most recent AYP status report for your school show how your child’s school compares to other schools in our district and state. You can obtain a copy of these reports in the “District Info – Important Documents” section of our website (<http://www.limestone.k12.il.us>) or in LCHS Business Office.

The *No Child Left Behind Act* provides you, as a parent, the option to transfer your child to another public school within the district with transportation provided by the district. However, at this time we do not have a school within the district to which your child can transfer. We have contacted neighboring districts to request that they provide us with a school(s) we can offer you as an option. No school district has agreed to do so this school year.

Thus far our restructuring process and our Universal Leadership Team has been focused on better ways of delivering instruction and increasing student learning. We have created a focus on aligning our curriculum to the Common Core Standards and developing common term assessments in all subject areas, offering a math and reading lab to assist at-risk students during the school day, and screening students in math and language arts three times per year to monitor student progress using Measurements of Academic Progress (MAP) testing. In addition all students are now taking cumulative term assessment to better

prepare them for high stakes testing and give our teaching staff valuable feedback on student learning. We are proud of our staff and students in their efforts over the past year.

With our longitudinal MAP data we have appropriately placed students in core academic areas, specifically English, math, science, and social science to meet their individual academic needs. We continue to be focused on improving our teaching practices to engage our students and increase performance in all subject areas. We will continue to refine our curriculum to provide the best education possible for the students in our community. The introduction of more reading and writing will be a primary focus of our entire curriculum this year. In addition, the implementation of Rocket Academy will provide individual students the opportunity to have and build a relationship with a staff member to advocate for them and provide them with resources to ensure their success. Likewise, the State Board of Education continues its work with Limestone Community High School and our Universal Leadership Team to help improve the academic standards of the school.

However, this may not be enough, and we want to request your help as the school addresses its academic challenges. The school encourages parental involvement in their student's education. The school's student management system, Skyward Family Access, allows parents access to a variety of their child's records including current grades, contact information for teachers, and attendance and discipline information. We would also like to invite parents to serve on the committee that will continue to develop and refine the LCHS Rising Star Plan and involve parents in addressing the academic issues that caused the school to be identified for school improvement.

Please contact Mrs. Jill Warren, school principal, at 697-6271 if you would like to become a member of our district Universal Leadership Team or have any questions about our plan of action.

Thank you,



Allan S. Gresham, Ed.S.  
Superintendent