

September 15, 2011

Dear ELH Parent or Guardian,

As you may know, in January 2002 the US Congress passed a federal education law called No Child Left Behind (NCLB). NCLB requires the state, districts and schools to meet specific achievement targets in math and reading, as well as a set of other academic and non-academic indicators. For 2011, the achievement targets for the District of Columbia are 73.69% of the students proficient in reading and 70.14% of the student proficient in mathematics at the elementary level. All the students must meet these targets, including the following populations: major ethnic groups, special education students, limited English proficient students and low-income students. In addition, at least 85 percent of the students enrolled in schools must participate in the state assessments and the schools must have a 90 percent annual student attendance rate. Collectively, these targets are known as adequate yearly progress (AYP).

E.L. Haynes students continue to outperform the citywide averages for academic proficiency. E.L. Haynes scored more than 8 percentage points above the DC average in reading and 34 percentage points above the average in math on the 2011 DC-CAS. Fifty-two percent (52%) of E.L. Haynes students are proficient or advanced in reading and 77% are proficient or advanced in math, ranking us as the second highest performing elementary public charter school in math in the district.¹ Over the last six years, E.L. Haynes has experienced a 47% growth in the number of students scoring proficient and advanced in math. Those students who have been with us the longest perform particularly well; in 2011, seventy-five percent (75%) of our oldest students (8th grade in 2010-11) were proficient or advanced in reading and 90% were proficient or advanced in math.

Even with these strong scores, we did not make AYP this year. Thus, we are in corrective action status titled "Restructuring Year 1" and are required by NCLB to notify families that you have the option of transferring your student to another school that has made AYP (details regarding other schools in the District of Columbia can be found at: <http://www.nclb.osse.dc.gov/> or <http://focusdc.org/data>) and inform that you will have the opportunity to comment on the restructuring plans that we are required to develop in response to our AYP designation. We are also required to notify you that your student may be eligible for Supplemental Educational Services (SES). A student is eligible to receive SES if the child receives free or reduced price lunch. Please know that the demand for SES tutoring generally exceeds funds available and priority will be given to the eligible students most in need of academic support.

¹ These figures are based on data initially reported by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education. E.L. Haynes believes these figures were calculated incorrectly and has appealed the initial report. A successful appeal will raise the overall proficiency in Reading to 63%.



Georgia Avenue Campus

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(202) 667-4446 (Grades 3-8)

Kansas Avenue Campus

4501 Kansas Avenue, NW
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(202) 706-5828 (Grades PS-2)
(202) 706-5838 (Grades 9-12)

info@elhaynes.org
www.elhaynes.org

Under NCLB, you also have the right to request the following information on the professional qualifications of your child's teacher. We are happy to provide the following information to you at any time:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching;
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived; and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

If you would like to learn more about our staff members, please see our website (www.elhaynes.org) or contact your student's principal or myself.

We are developing a school improvement plan to help struggling students reach proficiency this school year. Your continued support and belief that our school can help all students meet high standards is important to us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer C. Niles".

Jennifer C. Niles
Founder and Head of School
E.L. Haynes Public Charter School