



BULLOCK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

108 HARDAWAY AVENUE WEST
POST OFFICE BOX 231
UNION SPRINGS, ALABAMA 36089-0231



August 06, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Merritt Elementary School is continuing its tradition of positive education experiences for all students. Teachers, students, parents, and school administrators have worked very hard during the past years to improve student achievement. That hard work paid off! Merritt Elementary School met all of its academic goals and made AYP based on spring 2009 assessments. Merritt Elementary School met **13 of 13** goals. This is the fourth year Merritt has met 100% of their goals.

The Alabama State Department of Education looks at adequate yearly progress, based upon last year's test scores, and evaluates **1,376** public schools in the state, including **866** Title I schools. Statewide, **122** schools have been identified for School Improvement. Of those, **52** are Title I schools, compared to **73** last year. Our school met all **13** of its academic goals. Merritt Elementary will be taking the following steps to maintain our status: the teachers, administrators, and district staff will be working to strengthen classroom strategies related to raising student achievement and will seek out new ways to get parents involved in the school improvement process. In addition, we have a System Instructional Coach to assist teachers with providing effective instructional strategies to the students. During the upcoming school year, Merritt Elementary School will continue improvement strategies that were implemented during the years that resulted in the school's successes.

Merritt will participate in the following educational activities to promote continuous success: Alabama Reading Initiative (ARI), Alabama Reading First Initiative (ARFI), Transforming East Alabama Mathematics (TEAM Math), Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative (AMSTI), Alabama Black Belt Art Education Initiative (ABBAEI), LAN and LEARN, and Science on Saturday (SOS).

We encourage you to discuss the school's successes with your child and to continue involvement in helping him/her to be successful in school. Examples of how you may be more involved include:

- Asking about homework assignments
- Reading to your child every day
- Attending back-to-school nights to meet teachers and other school activities
- Volunteering at your child's school

We appreciate your support in the past and look forward to building a strong partnership to provide the best education possible for your child. Please contact Linda J. Jackson, Federal Programs Coordinator at (334)738-4372 if you have questions or need additional information.

Respectfully yours,

Linda J. Jackson
Federal Programs Coordinator

EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the Bullock County Board of Education that no student will be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity on the basis of sex, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, or disability.