

Dear Parents and Community Members,

On January 8, 2002, President Bush signed the *No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001* into law. The law calls for sweeping changes in public education. Among these is a new federal requirement that all states and school districts in receipt of Title I funds must issue NCLB "report cards" to parents. The purpose of the report card is to give parents information about their child's school in terms of academic achievement and the professional qualifications of its teachers. Attached is our school's 2010-2011 "report card." The information is divided into two parts: School Report Cards and assessment test results for the New England Common Assessment (NECAP) test, the Maine Educational Assessment (MEA), and the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).

The School Report cards provide information about the qualifications of the teachers currently working in SAD #4. The information is divided into two parts: (1) the number of core academic classes and (2) the percentage of classes taught by teachers who are highly qualified in the core academic areas such as mathematics, science, reading, history, English language arts, etc. Both pieces of information are intended to help you understand the qualifications of the teachers who are working with your children.

No Child Left Behind requires that test results for reading and mathematics be reported. The included test information summarizes how SAD #4 did on the fall 2010 tests. The data is broken down by grade level, subject area and the performances of different sub-groups. This information is similar to the data you have received from your child's school. Now this data has been added together to provide a snapshot of how the students in our schools have performed as a whole.

The school performance ratings provide information about how well our schools are doing relative to others in the state and to its performance in past years. This system has been set up to comply with the accountability provisions of *No Child Left Behind* which requires, among other things, that each school make adequate yearly progress (AYP) toward meeting a national goal of all students being "proficient" in mathematics and English by the year 2013-2014.

In closing, please know that we are prepared to help you further should you have additional questions about what this report card means.

Sincerely,

Trisha Kurt
NCLB Coordinator