

# Carl F. Smith Middle School

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Terra Bella – Tulare County – California 93270

Mr. Guadalupe Roman, Principal

Mrs. Kathy Conrad, Secretary

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## Dear Parents/Guardians of Students in Carl F. Smith Middle School:

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001 requires all states to create their own high academic standards for what a child should know and be able to do for all grades in English-language arts and mathematics. Every school must improve each year until all students meet these standards. This yearly improvement in school performance, which includes the academic standards and other components, is called Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

NCLB also requires the California Department of Education to annually review the performance of each school that receives funds under NCLB Title I. Using student performance data, a school is identified as a Program Improvement if for each of two consecutive years it:

- Does not make AYP in the same content area.

NCLB requires state educational agencies, such as the California Department of Education, to inform parents/guardians of students about school performance. The current school year, Carl F. Smith Middle School has been identified (Year 5) as a Program Improvement school.

### As a Program Improvement school, the school must:

- Consult with parents and school staff when revising the Single Plan for Student Achievement. This plan explains how the school will use Title I and other funds to improve student achievement.
- Reserve at least 10 percent of its annual Title I allocation to provide professional development for teachers and administrators.
- Develop and implement alternative governance strategies.

### How can parents help their school improve?

Here are some suggestions to help you work with your school to support improvements.

1. Learn more about the new NCLB requirements. Become aware of strategies to improve student academic achievement. Additional information and resources are available at the following Web sites: The California Department of Education at [www.cde.ca.gov](http://www.cde.ca.gov) and the U.S. Department of Education at [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov).
2. Talk with school staff about the Single Plan for Student Achievement to help students in meeting the state standards in reading and mathematics.
3. If you are a parent of an eligible student who attends a Title I Program Improvement school in Year 1 and above, ask about school choice options to transfer your child with paid transportation to a public school in your District that is not identified as a Program Improvement school.

4. If you are a parent of an eligible student who attends a Title I Program Improvement school in Year 2 or above, ask about supplemental educational services that may be available for your child. Supplemental educational services are extra academic services provided to eligible Title I students outside of the regular school day.
5. Visit your child's school and volunteer.

You are encouraged to contact **Mr. Guadalupe Roman** at (559) 535-4451 Extension 1101 for further information about any of these requirements and to find out how you can become involved in Program Improvement efforts.

Sincerely,

Guadalupe Roman, Principal