PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE NOTIFICATION

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires that parents of students who attend (or will attend)a school that has failed to reach specific NCLB goals for two consecutive years be notified of the opportunity for their child to attend a public school that has not been so identified. Although Lawrence County High School (LCHS) exceeded the state average in both reading and mathematics, the school fell short in meeting state and federal goals for its 2009 Graduation Rate. As such, the school has been classified in School Improvement I.

Therefore, you as a parent may choose to withdraw your son or daughter from LCHS and enroll him/her at either Loretto High School (LHS) or Summertown High School (SHS) with transportation provisions assumed by the school system. If you wish for your child to transfer, contact Dr. Vicki Maddox at 931-762-3581, ext. 116, or email vmaddox@lcss.us to complete the application process. Application deadline is Monday, July 19, 2010.

Lawrence County School System
NCLB Public School Choice

11 May 2010

Dear Parent of a Lawrence County High School (LCHS) Student or Prospective Student,

In the coming weeks, I anticipate that LCHS will be identified by the Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE) as a "High Priority" school based on previous graduation rates that were below the benchmark established in the No Child Left Behind Act. LCHS will be classified as a School Improvement Phase One (1) institution. Although the school exceeded the state average/benchmark Proficient & Advanced for both Mathematics and Reading , the school fell short in meeting the state and federal goals for the 2009 graduation rate. Local and state comparisons are outlined below.

Therefore, in accordance with the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, I am obligated to inform you that your child is eligible to transfer to another high school in the district. Below is data comparing the three secondary schools in Lawrence County and the percentage of students meeting or exceeding the required benchmarks.

Choice Schools	% of Students Proficient & Advanced in Math in 2009-2010 (Target 83%)	% of Students Proficient & Advanced in Reading in 2009-2010 (Target 93%)	Graduation Rate (Target 90%)
Lawrence County High	91%	96%	79.9%
Loretto High School	98%	95%	85.4%
Summertown High School	94%	92%	91.5%
STATE AVERAGE	89%	94%	82.2%

As the parent(s) of a current LCHS student(s) or of an incoming student(s) in the ninth grade or a transfer student, you may choose to withdraw your son or daughter from LCHS and enroll him/her at either Loretto High School or Summertown High School. If you choose to transfer your child to either school, please be aware of the following guidelines and options:

- The Lawrence County School System will provide or pay for transportation to and from your child's "Choice School" for as long as LCHS is identified as a high priority school. Once LCHS meets its graduation goal for two consecutive years, the high priority status will be removed.
- Your child will be allowed to remain at the new school until he/she completes the highest grade level.
- If funds are not available for all students to be transported, priority for transportation will be given to the lowest achieving students from low-income families.
- If requests for a Choice School exceed that school's student capacity, priority for first choice will be given to the lowest achieving students from low-income families.
-

LCHS has established action plans and new programs designed to address the deficiency in graduation rates. With the implementation of a Graduation Coach identifying and assisting at risk students; in-school and after-school Credit Recovery opportunities; Second Chance program designed to assist students with testing and tutoring; attendance makeup opportunities to avoid failure due to excessive absences; and parent-student-administrator contracts to assist students and parents with detailed personal academic plans and credit requirements needed for minimum state requirements. The Lawrence County School System and State Board of Education are further assisting by providing technical assistance to faculty, staff and the administrative team.

With a number of programs in place to address this matter, it may not be enough. An active and involved parent in child's education is invaluable. Please help us by remaining involved in your child's education as they advance through high school. If they experiences difficulty with a subject area or attending school on a daily basis, contact the school immediately. Emphasize to your child that his or her attendance and grades are important. If your child fails a course, contact the Guidance Department to learn more about Credit Recovery and options available to assist them. Speak with your child on a regular basis about his/her grades and career plans. Monitor your child's attendance record, contact teachers via email and attend Parent-Teacher conferences in the fall and spring. Active involvement and participation in your child's education decreases the chances of failing courses, accumulating unexcused absences and lacking the required number of credits for graduation.

However, if you wish for your child to transfer, you must complete the form on the back side of this letter and return it no later than Tuesday, May 25, to your child's teacher indicated on the form. The Federal Program Director, Dr. Vicki Maddox, will notify you by mail with transportation information and the date your child may start attending their "Choice School". Please contact Dr. Maddox at 762-3581 or vmaddox@lcss.us if you have questions or need more information regarding the School Choice Program.

Sincerely,
Dr. Bill Heath
Director of Schools
Attachment: School Choice Request Form

Lawrence County School System
School Choice Request Form
2010-2011

Return by fax (766-1919); email (vmaddox@lcss.us); mail or personal delivery to Lawrence County Board of Education, 700 Mahr Avenue, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464, no later than Tuesday, May 25, 2010.

Student's Name _____

Student's Home Address _____

School Attending Now _____

☐ Yes, I would like to take advantage of the Public School Choice option for my child.

Select a first and second choice from a secondary school named in the letter. If you have only one preference, list only that school in the space provided below.

1st Choice: _____(Insert name of school.)
2nd Choice: _____(Insert name of school.)

_____ _____
Parent Signature / Legal Guardian Date

Remember: The Federal Program Director will notify you when the choice option will take effect and when your child may start attending the Choice School. Please contact Dr. Vicki Maddox at 762-3581, ext. 116, if you have questions or need additional information.

Number of Students Exercising Public School Choice Option

2010-2011 School Year

Out of 1,125 eligible students enrolled at Lawrence County High School, four (4) students exercised the Public School Choice Option and transferred to Loretto High School.