December 2, 2013

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Under the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), districts receiving federal Title I, Part A funds must provide all parents/guardians of enrolled students with the annual accountability information for their child’s school. The 2013 accountability information for Conservatory Lab Charter School is included below.

* **Accountability and Assistance Levels:** Schools and districts are placed into one of five accountability and assistance levels (1-5), with the schools that are meeting their gap-narrowing goals in Level 1 and the lowest performing schools in Level 5. Our school has been placed into Level 1 because we succeeded in meeting our proficiency gap-narrowing goals.
* **School Percentiles:** A school percentile between 1 and 99 is reported for most schools. This number shows the overall performance of our school relative to other schools that serve the same or similar grades. Our school percentile is 56. This means that our school is performing higher than 56 percent of the elementary schools in the state.
* **Progress and Performance Index (PPI):** The PPI is a number that indicates our school’s progress toward narrowing proficiency gaps, or, in other words, helping all students reach proficiency and be prepared for success after high school. Massachusetts has set a goal of reducing proficiency gaps by half between the years 2011 and 2017. For a group of students to be considered to be making sufficient progress toward narrowing proficiency gaps, its cumulative PPI must be 75 or higher. The table below provides the cumulative PPI for our “all students” and “high needs students” groups:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Student group** | **2013 Cumulative PPI** |
| All students | 84 |
| High needs students  *(Low income students, students with disabilities, and current and former English language learners)* | 79.6 |

We encourage you to become involved in helping us improve our school. Some of the ways you can become involved are:

* Encouraging your child’s learning at home
* Attending parent-teacher meetings and other special meetings
* Serving as a volunteer in our school or district
* Encouraging other parents to become involved

In addition, if your child attends a school that receives federal Title I funds, you also have the right to request the following information about the qualifications of your child’s classroom teacher(s):

* Whether your child’s teacher is licensed in the grade levels and subject areas they teach
* Whether your child’s teacher is teaching under an emergency license or waiver
* The college degree and major of your child’s teacher
* Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications

For more information about what we are doing to improve student achievement, or to request information about your child’s teacher(s), please feel free to contact us at 617-254-8904.

Sincerely,

Diana Lam  
Head of School, Conservatory Lab Charter School