

Dear Parent/Guardian:

September 15, 2011

On January 8, 2002, President George W. Bush signed the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). This law requires that all states develop accountability systems to ensure that all students reach the proficient level of achievement by the 2013-2014 school year. In New Jersey, all school districts will continue to use the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJASK) to measure students' proficiency levels.

This letter is to inform you that based on the 2011 NJASK results the NJ Department of Education has identified Golden Door Charter School for improvement. It is important to note that this designation may be due to a subgroup not meeting the benchmarks.

Like the Jersey City Public Schools current school choice procedure, students in schools identified for improvement are allowed to transfer to accepting schools. Priority will be given to students whose NJASK scores are less than proficient and who are from low-income families as determined by the student's completed free or reduced lunch form. In most instances, because of space limitations, we may not be able to transfer every child in a family to the same school. We are providing parents with this opportunity as an option. The decision is entirely up to you, so you should base your decision on what you think is best for your child.

Golden Door Charter School's administration and teachers have been working to improve the schools' curricula. School communities have developed School Improvement Plans to address the academic needs the school staff has identified by carefully examining NJASK results. We believe that your child's school is on its way towards achieving the NCLB goals. Golden Door Charter School has implemented new programs and services to better meet the needs of your child.

These include:

- Wilson Reading Program
- The Everyday Mathematics program and the Connected Mathematics program
- Small group data driven instruction
- Tutoring programs

The school alone cannot improve student achievement: parents are necessary partners to complete this task. Golden Door Charter School has presented a Parent School Student Compact, which outlines the many ways that you can actively participate in your child's education.

All requests for school choice must be submitted to me, Mr. Brian Stiles, Chief Academic Officer.

In closing, please know that the staff of the Golden Door Charter School remains committed to ensuring that your children succeed in meeting the highest expectations that we have set for them.

Sincerely,

Brian Stiles
Chief Academic Officer