



**Bellows Falls Middle
School
15 School Street
Bellows Falls, VT 05010**

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Supplemental Education Services

September 22, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

According to federal requirements, Bellows Falls Middle School, grades five through eight, did not make “adequate yearly progress” (AYP) in the areas of math and reading last year. We are working hard to improve student’s academic performance and teacher instruction. Because of these results, we are in “Year 3 of Corrective Action.”

As a result, the school is required to provide, free of charge, Supplemental Educational Services, such as tutoring to improve eligible BFMS students’ academic performance. Transportation is not provided. If you are eligible and choose to participate, you will be able to select a program that best fits your child’s needs. This letter will highlight these services and explain how to access them.

Eligibility: Only children who are eligible for free and reduced-price federal meals can participate. Some families who are eligible for free and reduced price meals may not have applied before. It is not too late, you received an application to participate in Free and Reduced Lunch program with the August handouts and we are enclosing another one. If you do not want to access the Free and Reduced Lunch program, you may provide evidence to prove eligibility but do not need to participate in that program in order to access supplemental services.

You get to choose: One of the most important features of Supplemental Educational Services is that families are the ones who will make choices for their children. You can choose among different types of services, given by different providers at different locations. Remember also that there’s no obligation to enroll your child in Supplemental Educational Services.

Service Providers: The Vermont Department of Education has approved a list of eligible providers. The attached list includes the providers, the services they offer and their qualifications. They will offer their services at the addresses listed during times that are outside of the regular school day. You cannot use a provider who is not on this list.

Limited services available: Only a limited number of spaces are available. As a result, we may not be able to enroll every child whose parent applies. In compliance with federal law, we will give first priority to the lowest-achieving students. This achievement level will be based on the student’s score on the mathematics NECAP.

Application deadline: If you decide you want to access Supplemental Educational Services, you must notify me in writing by October 7, 2011.

Questions: If you have questions or would like help in choosing a provider, please contact Heidi Lucas- Moccia at 463.4366.

We are proud of our recent efforts to improve our students’ progress in mathematics and reading, but we are not satisfied with the current results. We are working to improve our instruction and curriculum, and therefore increase our students’ success. We also monitor student progress and provide additional support in math and reading during the school day to those students who are struggling. We welcome parent input into this process. We look forward to working with you to make BFMS an excellent school for our children.

Sincerely,

Heidi Lucas-Moccia
Principal

Enclosures: Vermont's approved list of Supplemental Educational Service providers, Free and Reduced Application Form