<Date>

<Parent>
<Address>
<City, State, Zip>

Dear <Parent>:

Your student is currently enrolled in a bilingual or English as a Second Language (ESL) program to develop his or her English language proficiency in order to achieve high academic standards.

Each school district that serves English learners (ELs) is required to test those students with the English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA). The results of the ELPA are used to determine whether our district is achieving pre-determined targets for students making progress toward achieving English language proficiency. Beginning this school year (2013-2014) the state of Michigan is transitioning from the ELPA to the World Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA).

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) established Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs) so that districts can measure the progress of their students. The three AMAOs established by NCLB are:

AMAO 1: Progress – the school district must have 81% or higher of its EL students make progress on the English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA). Progress is defined as a 4-point (or more) increase of a student’s scale score from the previous year’s ELPA score.

AMAO 2: Proficiency – the school district must have 20% of its EL students achieve proficiency on the ELPA.

AMAO 3: Accountability Scorecard Targets for English Learner Students – the district must achieve Accountability Scorecard targets for its EL subgroup on the statewide assessment (Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP), Michigan Merit Examination (MME), or MI-Access).

This year, <district name> is identified for improvement of Title III services because <list reasons (be specific, e.g., only 10% of the students were proficient in reading)>. 
In order to address this problem, *explain what the school is doing to address the problem and how the district and MDE are helping*. You can assist our efforts by *explain how parents can be involved in addressing the academic issues that caused the school to be identified*.

We anticipate that these initiatives will result in increased student achievement throughout the district.

To learn more about your student’s progress in English language acquisition or how you can become more involved at his or her school, contact *name and number*.

Sincerely,

*District Official*