Dear South Holland School District 150 Families,

On October 31, 2018, The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) released designations for every school in the state. The designations provide a public benchmark of each school’s progress toward the goal of preparing all students for success in college and career. The designation is based on the school’s overall data for all of the accountability indicators, as well as the data for individual student groups. The designations are listed below.

- **Exemplary**
  - Performance in the top 10% of all schools
  - High schools with graduation rate higher than 67%
  - No underperforming student groups at or below the “all students” group in the lowest-performing 5% of all schools
  - Eligible to apply to serve as an IL-EMPOWER Learning Partner

- **Commendable**
  - Performance not in the top 10% of all schools
  - High schools with graduation rate higher than 67%
  - No underperforming student groups at or below the “all students” group in the lowest-performing 5% of all schools
  - Eligible to apply to serve as an IL-EMPOWER Learning Partner

- **Underperforming**
  - One or more student groups underperforming at or below the “all students” group in the lowest-performing 5% of all schools; groups must have at least 20 students in at least four indicators
    - **STUDENT GROUPS**
      - Economically disadvantaged students
      - Students with disabilities
      - Students formerly with a disability (coming soon)
      - English Learners
      - Former English Learners
    - **RACIAL AND ETHNIC GROUPS**
      - Hispanic or Latino
      - American Indian or Alaska Native
      - Asian
      - Black or African American
      - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
      - White
      - Two or More Races
  - Completes a Work Plan for School Improvement and may choose to receive targeted support through IL-Empower process

- **Lowest –Performing**
  - In the lowest-performing 5% of Title I eligible schools statewide
  - High schools with graduation rate at or below 67%
o Completes a Work Plan for School Improvement and receives comprehensive support through IL-EMPOWER process

South Holland School District 150 Schools: McKinley Junior High, McKinley Elementary and Greenwood has a designation of Commendable. Our students are not yet performing in the top 10% of all schools however, we do not have underperforming student groups at or below “all students” group in the lowest-performing 5% of all schools.

The state’s new support and accountability system evaluates schools based on a fuller picture of school quality, including the performance of individual student groups and measures beyond test scores. Like the state’s new Evidence-Based Funding formula, the support and accountability system drives resources to improve student outcomes to the schools in the greatest need of increased support.

I am so very proud of the South Holland School District 150 Administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, administrative assistants and custodians for all of their efforts.

Sincerely,

Dr. Denise Julius, Superintendent

“Students must become entrepreneurs of their own learning to ensure that they are college-and career-ready.”

- Denise Julius, Ed.D.