



# Murfreesboro City Schools

## Administrative Offices

*Linda Arms Gilbert, Director of Schools*

2552 South Church Street, Suite 100

Murfreesboro, TN 37127-6342

615-893-2313 Fax 615-893-2352

Date: April 25, 2011

Dear Parent:

Bradley Academy has had a terrific year! Our school is working hard to increase student achievement in math and reading:

- We are providing an arts integrated curriculum with drama, dance, chorus, art, instrumental music, and fifth and sixth grade bands.
- Our school has smaller class sizes, with less than a 20:1 student:teacher ratio.
- We have an integrated ELL program in which ESL students are with their English proficient peers all day.
- Reading and math intervention and enrichment periods are offered for each grade level during the day; this allows students to work on their level.
- We offer the SPIRE Reading Intervention Program, a research-proven program for increasing student learning.
- After-school tutoring programs have been instituted to truly extend the school day and provide meaningful learning opportunities for our students.
- In addition, enrichment and environment camps are being planned for the summer.

This letter is to inform you of the current status of the school and what is being done to ensure that excellence is the standard for the present and for the future. Last year, the state adopted new, more rigorous standards. Over half of the schools in Murfreesboro City met the state goals based on those standards. Across the state, thirty-four percent of the schools met the goal in math and fifty-one percent met the goals in reading. Bradley's students did not meet state and federal goals in math with the African American subgroup. Ten percent of our African American students were proficient or advanced while the state's target for math was to have twenty percent proficient or advanced. We also did not meet the state and federal goals in grades 3-6 in reading/language arts with the Hispanic subgroup. Fifteen percent of our Hispanic students were proficient or advanced while the target was to have thirty-two percent. Because the targets were not met for the 2009-2010 school year, Bradley was identified by the Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE) as a high priority school in School Improvement I. That status will not change until after the test results determine whether or not the school made adequate yearly progress (AYP) on the TCAP tests we just completed.

Because Bradley Academy is a Title I high priority school, your child is eligible to (a) remain at Bradley next year, (b) transfer to either Hobgood or Northfield, or (c) if your child is currently zoned to a different school in the district, you may return to that school. For your information, in 2009-2010, Hobgood had thirty-nine percent of the students scoring proficient or advanced in math and forty-nine percent in reading. Hobgood also had a ninety-six percent attendance rate, Bradley's attendance rate was ninety-five percent, and the state's rate was ninety-three percent. Northfield Elementary had thirty-five percent of its students scoring proficient or advanced in math and fifty percent in reading. Northfield Elementary's attendance rate was ninety-six percent.

*Bellwood-Bowdoin Preschool • Black Fox • Bradley Academy • Cason Lane Academy • Erma Siegel  
Discovery School at Reeves-Rogers • Hobgood • John Pittard • Mitchell-Neilson Elementary  
Mitchell-Neilson Primary • Northfield • Scales*

Again, we welcome you to remain at Bradley Academy. However, if you choose to transfer your child, the district will provide or pay for transportation to and from Northfield or Hobgood as long as Bradley Academy is a high priority school identified for improvement. If Bradley Academy meets achievement goals for two straight years, it will no longer be a high priority school. In that case, your child will be allowed to remain at the new school until he/she completes the highest grade. If funds are not available for all students to be transported, priority for transportation will be given to lowest-achieving students from low-income families. If requests for a choice school exceed that school's capacity, priority for first choice will be given to lowest-achieving students from low-income families.

Thank you for what you are already doing to increase your child's academic achievement. We encourage you to help by enrolling your students in after-school programs. Your attendance at parent meetings and workshops is very important. Please request a parent conference ANY time to discuss your child's academic progress

If you would like for your child to transfer, you must complete the attached form and return it no later than Friday, May 13, 2011 to the Bradley school office at 511 Mercury Blvd., Murfreesboro, TN 37130. The Finance and Administrative Services Office of the district will notify you by phone and mail to provide transportation information and registration information for your child's new school. Please contact Crystal Farris at (615) 893-2313 if you have questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kim Fowler  
Principal  
Bradley Academy

Enclosure: School Choice Request Form

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