

Alliance Public Schools
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Alliance, NE 69301
(308) 762-5475

ALLIANCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
"Success for All Students"

Daniel J. Hoelsing, Superintendent
Joan C. Ibarra, Systems & Data
Technician

August 5, 2010

To the Parent(s) or Guardian(s) of: Cheryl Aby
647 Belmont Street
Alliance, NE 69301

Dear Parent(s)/or Guardian(s):

I am writing to inform you about new guidelines from the US Department of Education regarding the collection of data on race and ethnicity for public school students and staff. The federal government, which requires all states to collect this information, has developed a new way to report ethnicity and race that includes new categories.

The federal government has developed these new categories in order to provide a more accurate picture of the nation's ethnic and racial diversity. This will enable individuals to be identified in ethnic and racial classifications and in more than one racial category. In the past, forms allowed individuals to be identified in only one racial category.

Currently, Alliance Public Schools asks families to provide information on students' race and ethnicity at the time of enrollment. Beginning in fall 2010, we will ask the families of newly enrolled students AND of all current students to complete a brief form to update information on their children's ethnicity and race. We will also collect data from staff.

The date with the new ethnicity and race categories will be used in the same manner that such information is currently used. For example, the federal government uses racial and ethnic data in reporting and analyzing test results. The new categories will replace all existing categories for use in state and federal data collections that include data on ethnicity and race.

The enclosed question and answer sheet provides additional information about these changes.

For more information, please access our school website at <http://apschools.schoolfusion.us>

Sincerely,

Joan C. Ibarra

Joan C. Ibarra
Systems & Data Technician