

# Lockport City School District

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**Emmet Belknap Intermediate School**

491 High Street

Lockport, New York 14094-4798

**Paul M. Kowalski, Principal**

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October 22, 2020

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian,

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is a federal law that governs the United States K-12 public education policy. The New York State Education Department (NYSED) has established accountability measures to measure school performance in compliance with ESSA. For Kindergarten through grade 8 schools, the indicators include academic achievement, student growth, progress of English language learners, and chronic absenteeism.

Based on 2018-2019 data, Emmet Belknap Intermediate School has been classified as a Targeted Support and Improvement School (TSI) under the Every Student Succeeds Act accountability system. As a result of this designation, several steps will happen:

- A school improvement team will conduct a needs assessment.
- Based on the needs-assessment, the team will develop a school improvement plan.
- The team will seek and ensure that stakeholders have opportunities to provide input and feedback through surveys and meetings.
- All staff and parents will be invited to complete a School Climate Survey during the time period October 28-November 4, 2020. A link to the survey will be provided to parents via email and the EBIS website.

The Emmet Belknap Intermediate School learning community has already begun implementing strategies for improvement by identifying the following goals:

- Increase student participation on New York State ELA and Mathematics Assessments to achieve the required 95% participation rate.
- Improve student performance on all New York State Assessments.
- Decrease instances of chronic absenteeism. Chronic absenteeism is defined as being absent more than 10% of the school days (the equivalent of 18 days) in the school year.

There will be a virtual presentation and opportunity for questions via Google Meet on Tuesday, October 27 at 6:00pm. Please use the code [meet.google.com/pft-wifu-mra](https://meet.google.com/pft-wifu-mra) to join. During this meeting, participants will be provided with an explanation of the school improvement planning process and given the opportunity to ask questions and learn how they can provide input. In addition, information will be posted on the Emmet Belknap Intermediate School website at [www.lockportschools.org/ebis](http://www.lockportschools.org/ebis).

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Paul M. Kowalski

Principal

***“Pride in Our Past; Faith in Our Future”***

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We believe: All people can learn. Schools create conditions for success: academically, socially, emotionally, physically and aesthetically.

Teaching and learning is the shared responsibility of home, school and community. Our mission is to assure comprehensive learning for all so that each person will be a lifelong learner.