

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
NOVEMBER 4, 2019



## ALABAMA ACCOUNTABILITY ACT FAILING SCHOOLS LIST

DOTHAN – The Alabama Department of Education released the Alabama Accountability Act (AAA) mandated list of schools in the bottom 6% on the state assessment on Friday, November 1, 2019, for the 2018-2019 school year based on the state’s standardized assessment in reading and math. In accordance with the AAA law, this list, commonly known as the ‘Failing Schools List,’ is revised and posted annually.

For the 2018-2019 school year, former **Girard Elementary School** (currently Girard Primary School) was designated as a “failing school.” The designation of this school does not reflect the progress that is currently occurring at the school. This school year, strategies enacted by Dothan City School restructuring is currently in place to ensure that students at this school receive the best education possible.

Per the Alabama Accountability Act, provisions are included to offer financial assistance through an income tax credit to a parent who chooses to transfer their student from a failing public school as defined by the Act to a non-failing public or non-public qualifying school of the parent’s choice.

Notification to parents of children enrolled in an Alabama public school designated as a failing school or scheduled to enroll in a failing school as defined above will be provided such notification in the Spring of 2020 that will outline the options those parents may pursue related to School Choice as follows.

**Option 1**- The student may remain or enroll in the assigned school.

**Option 2** - The student may transfer to a **comparable** school that is not included on the annual list of "failing schools" within the same local school system that has **available space** and is willing to accept the student.

**Option 3** - If the local system has not made Option 2 available, the student may transfer to a **comparable** school that is not included on the annual list of "failing schools" within another Alabama local school system that has available space and is willing to accept the student.

**Option 4** - The student may transfer to a **qualifying** non-public Alabama school that is willing to accept the student.

For parents with any further questions, they can contact Lee Jacobs, Dothan City Schools Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and Accountability at [jujacobs@dothan.k12.al.us](mailto:jujacobs@dothan.k12.al.us).

###

*If you would like to schedule an interview, please contact  
Meagan Dorsey at 334-596-0872 or [medorsey@dothan.k12.al.us](mailto:medorsey@dothan.k12.al.us)  
Dothan City Schools | 334-793-1397*