



October 29, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. This letter is to let you know that our school has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. This status was assigned to our school last year, and due to the fact that we did not take end of the year assessments, we continue to be in TSI-AT status. TSI-AT schools are those that have one or more student groups that are under-performing. For our school, this student group is our Students with Disabilities. Our goal is to engage, inspire, and empower our students by ensuring excellence and equity in every classroom, closing the achievement gaps, and continuously improving instruction. We will continue working towards this goal for our students in this category to ensure their growth and success.

As a TSI-AT school, we are required to develop a comprehensive plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve student achievement. The plan for our school will address the following areas:

- Use of data-driven decision-making
- Time for intervention

Already, we have:

- Implemented data-driven small group instruction to address students' specific needs,
- Adjusted our master schedule to provide consistent time for small group and one-on-one intervention, and
- Established a "Non-Proficiency List" to identify and provide targeted intervention for non-proficient students throughout each quarter.
- Provided professional development opportunities in co-teaching strategies for EC and general education teachers.

We have established the following focus goal for this year:

- Students with disabilities will improve proficiency rates on the Reading and Math End of Grade Assessments (or the English 2 and Math 1 End of Course Assessments) by at least 3%.

Ensuring that all students achieve success will require a partnership among our staff, students and families. Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts and our strategic plan. As a District, two of our primary Family Engagement goals are:

- 1) Engaging families in the entire educational process and,
- 2) Creating meaningful partnerships by building trust, collaboration and engagement.

Below are a few additional resources that you may find helpful. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

- Graduation requirements: [www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/)
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: [www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/)
- State student achievement test results: [www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/)
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>

Sincerely,

**Dr. Robin Buckrham**  
**Principal, R. D. & Euzelle Smith Middle School**