



New Hanover County Public Schools
Snipes Academy of Arts & Design
2150 Chestnut Street
Wilmington, NC 28405
910-251-6175(O)/910-815-6974(F)

September 14, 2020

Rachel Manning, Principal
Rachael Beckelhimer, Assistant Principal
Stephanie Willis, Assistant Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in *New Hanover County Schools*, I am writing this letter to let you know that Snipes Academy of Art and Design has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), North Carolina had to identify schools for targeted support and improvement. TSI-AT schools in North Carolina are those that have a subgroup that is under-performing. The intent of this opportunity is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction.

As a TSI-AT school, Snipes Academy of Art & Design is required to develop a comprehensive plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve student achievement. The plan will also include how our district will support us and monitor the progress of our school. The comprehensive plan will address the following areas:

- Classroom Management
- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Instructional Leadership
- Recruitment & Retention of Effective Teachers
- Support for Grade-to-Grade Transitions
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Student Support Services
- Family and Community Engagement

We have set the following goals for Snipes Academy of Art & Design this year:

1. Met and/or exceed growth in all subgroups for the 2020-2021 school year
2. Achieve a School Performance Grade of C or better for the 2020-2021 school year

Our students need to experience higher achievement levels, but it will require hard work on the part of staff, students and families. Here are some strategies Snipes Academy of Art & Design will be implementing:

- Provide enrichment, acceleration and tiered instructional support

- Continue visible learning journey with specific emphasis on including parents with how they can support their child(ren)
- Support for students and parents on how to navigate remote/blended learning

Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways we can work together:

- Make sure that both you and your student are aware of academic expectations set for your student this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).
- Call Snipes Academy of Art & Design if you have questions or concerns about your student or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member who will be working with your student.
- Make sure that your student is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your student's homework.
- Monitor the progress your student is making and attend meetings with your student's teacher(s).
- Keep track of our website and social media sites
- Volunteer.

Sounds like a lot but preparing our students so that they can succeed is not easy and is a group effort. Here are some resources available to help:

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

We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student. We are hopeful that we can soon return safely and resume face to face instruction.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Rachel Manning at rachel.manning@nhcs.net or 910-251-6175.

Sincerely,



Rachel Manning

Principal