



NEW HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL

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October 1, 2020

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 New Hanover High School 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, New Hanover High School 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 New Hanover High School this year:

1. Meet or exceed growth expectations in all EOC areas and increase all EOC proficiencies by 8% for the following sub-groups of students, by the end of the 2020-2021 school year: English Language Learners, Students with Disabilities, and students who identify as Multi-Racial.
2. Increase 4-year Cohort Graduation rate by 4%, by the end of 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 New Hanover High School will be implementing:

- Utilizing Edgenuity as an instructional tool to provide students with grade recovery options, throughout the school year.

- Improving our multi-tiered system of support, so that interventions will help identify academic gaps and accelerate academic growth.
- Using our Dropout Prevention Coordinator as an additional resource for students in need of more individualized guidance and support in and out of the classroom.

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 your child's counselor 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 (<https://newhanoverhs.nhcs.net/>).
- Volunteer.
- Join the New Hanover High School PTSA.

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.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact me at rob.morgan@nhcs.net.

Sincerely,



Dr. Rob Morgan
Principal