

# Myrtle Grove Middle School

901 Piner Road • Wilmington, NC 28409  
Phone: (910) 350-2100 • Fax: (910) 350-2104



September 9, 2020

Dear MGMS Families,

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 Myrtle Grove Middle 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, Myrtle Grove Middle 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 Myrtle Grove Middle School this year:

Students showing need for specially designed instruction will show an overall academic increase on Reading and Math EOG's by MGMS staff ensuring all units of instruction and activities are aligned with IEP goals and objectives.

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 Myrtle Grove Middle School will be implementing:

- Strengthening overall core instruction
- Providing addition time in core academics to identified students with IEP's
- Continuing a focus on effective co-teaching between special education teachers and regular classroom teachers.

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 **Kristine Branch, 910 350 2100 x74162** 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.
- Join the Myrtle Grove 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/](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>

We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student. Already, we have: Had a great start with Remote Learning this year.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Cyndy Bliss** [cyndy.bliss@nhcs.net](mailto:cyndy.bliss@nhcs.net) or **9103502100**

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cyndy Bliss  
Principal  
Myrtle Grove Middle School

**Cyndy Bliss**  
*Principal*

**Robert**  
**Harrell**  
*Assistant*  
*Principal*

**Kristine**  
**Branch**  
*Assistant*  
*Principal*