



Escuela Primaria de Tar River

2642 Philo White Road

Franklinton, N.C. 27525

Teléfono (919) 528-2767 FAX (919) 528-2774

Timothy Bobay, Principal
Zane Hill, School Counselor
Amy Lue, Data Manager

Kristin Wilson, Assistant Principal
Anna Swanson, Receptionist
Erin Murphy, Bookkeeper

October 15, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. I am writing this letter to let you know that Tar River Elementary 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, Tar River Elementary 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 Tar River Elementary this year:

- By June of 2022, Grade Level Proficient (GLP) performance for reading will increase to 75% proficient and College and Career Ready (CCR) performance will increase to 60.5%.
- By June of 2022, Grade Level Proficient (GLP) performance for mathematics will increase to 78.1% proficient and College and Career Ready (CCR) performance will increase to 71.2%.
- Students will meet or exceed expected growth as measured by EVAAS and the School Performance Grade.
- By June of 2022, Grade Level Proficient (GLP) performance for science will increase to 86% proficient and College and Career Ready (CCR) performance will increase to 72%.
- Increase parent and family engagement by 10% as measured by parent attendance at curriculum nights and parent survey data.

Our students need to experience higher achievement levels, but it will require hard work on the part of the staff, students, and families. Here are some strategies Tar River Elementary will be implementing:

- Family curriculum nights (Storytelling Night, Family Game Night);
- Reading intervention for students in grades K-3;
- Project-based learning units;
- Two recess periods per grade level; and
- i-Ready for individualized reading and math intervention and enrichment.

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 students are aware of the 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 Mr. Hill 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: www.gcs.k12.nc.us; @TRESTerrapins on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram; Class Dojo.
- Join and use Class Dojo for updates on school activities and to connect with your child's teacher.
- Join the Tar River Elementary PTSO.

While it sounds like a lot, the work required in preparing our students so that they can succeed is not easy and is a group effort. Here are some resources available to help:

- 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 students. Already, we have

- Utilized Class Dojo as a means for increasing school-home communication and engagement;
- Implemented project-based learning professional development for teachers, units for students, and parent education during our first Title 1 Parent Night;
- Engaged students in a new PBIS celebration; and
- Utilized i-Ready as a means for differentiating intervention and enrichment for students.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Timothy Bobay at bobayt@gcs.k12.nc.us or (919) 528-2767.

Sincerely,

Timothy Bobay, Principal