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October 13, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in Butner-Stem Elementary School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Butner-Stem Elementary 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 ESEA 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, Butner Stem Elementary 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
- Performance Based Learning Objectives
- 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 Butner Stem Elementary School this year:

- By May 2022, increase reading proficiency by 10% points as measured by EOG and mClass.
- By May 2022, increase math proficiency by 10% points as measured by EOG and iReady.

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 Butner-Stem Elementary School will be implementing:

- After School tutoring

- Whole group, small group & individual student interventions
- Differentiated classroom instruction to meet the needs of all learners
- Weekly Guided Reading lessons for all students
- On-going teacher professional development to ensure we are meeting our students where they are

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 a student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).
- Call me 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 on Facebook and Twitter.
- 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 our students. Already, we have:

- **STEAM**
- **Project Based Learning opportunities**

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Dr. Charmain Day-Heggie at 919-575-6947 or daycl@gcs.k12.nc.us.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charmain Day-Heggie

Dr. Charmain Day-Heggie
Principal
Butner-Stem Elementary School