

VANCEBORO FARM LIFE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Tiffany York
Principal



Judy Fussell
Interim Assistant Principal

October 22, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. I am writing to inform you that as a parent/guardian of a student in Vanceboro Farm Life 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 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, Vanceboro Farm Life 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
- 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 Vanceboro Farm Life Elementary this year:

- The percentage of ALL students enrolled in grades 3-5 at Vanceboro Farm Life will increase at least 5 percentage points in each tested subject.
- Vanceboro Farm Life Elementary School will support all educators and retain a minimum of 80% of our highly effective educators for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Vanceboro Farm Life Elementary School will improve students attendance to at or above 95% and will decrease short term suspensions by 25% by the end of the 2021-2022 school year.
- Vanceboro Farm Life Elementary School will improve student learning outcomes through the development of high functioning professional learning communities as a means to foster collaborative culture focused on data analysis to drive instruction.

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 Vanceboro Farm Life Elementary School will be implementing:

- Common assessments and other data points to ensure students are being enriched and remediated.
- Aligned K-5 Math/ELA/Science Curriculum.
- Leader in Me, which serves as our model for school improvement as well as our Social/Emotional Curriculum.

- "Flipped Classroom" model of blended learning to help empower students to take ownership and accountability of their learning.
- A model of Continuous Classroom Improvement which utilizes the MTSS framework, to focus upon creating rigorous core instruction while providing supplemental & intensive intervention for student support.

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 teacher at 252-244-3215 to discuss your student's progress during the school year.
- Make sure that your student is prepared, on time and attends school each day.
- Monitor your student's classwork and homework.
- Keep track of our school website and social media sites REMIND, Facebook and Twitter.

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:

- Craven County Schools: <https://www.cravenk12.org>
- 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. Some highlights that have begun or are on the horizon are:

- Recognizing student growth in classroom tasks.
- Setting ALIGNED School, Grade Level, Classroom and Individual Student WIGs (Wildly Important Goals) in both Reading and Math.
- Empowering students to celebrate their growth and achievement through student-led conferences.
- Creating systems of accountability for both teachers and students through the use of Leadership Notebooks and an Aligned WIG system.
- Establishing a student Lighthouse Team which will provide a student voice into the decision-making processes of the adult Lighthouse Team.
- Continuing to change and create a physical school environment which empowers and immerses students and adults in the 5 Core Paradigms of the Leader In Me mindset.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Tiffany York, Principal at tiffany.york@cravenk12.org or 252-244-3215.

Sincerely,


Tiffany York

Principal, Vanceboro Farm Life Elementary School