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September 16, 2024

Dear Parent or Guardian,

As a parent/guardian of a student at Elizabethtown Middle School, I am writing to inform you that Elizabethtown Middle School has been designated as a Comprehensive Support and Improvement Low Performing (CSI-LP) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), North Carolina had to identify schools for comprehensive support and school improvement support. CSI-LP schools in North Carolina are those whose school performance grade is in the bottom five percent of all Title One served schools in North Carolina. 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 CSI-LP school, Elizabethtown 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

Specific goals and strategies have been developed by the school and are a part of the School Improvement Plan. To review the school improvement plan, please visit the link, <http://www.indistar.org> and enter the following information:

ID: GuestS15319

Password: GuestS15319

Our students need to experience higher achievement levels, but it will require hard work on the part of staff, students and families. Below are some strategies that Elizabethtown Middle School will be implementing:

- Professional development will be provided based on teachers' needs evident in both frequent administrative walk-throughs and data review

- Professional development on and implementation of Leader in Me, a character education curriculum
- Staff will analyze student performance data during grade level and vertical PLCs to identify student challenges and strengths, and drive instructional planning and design
- Tiered instruction will allow teachers to deliver individualized instruction that meets the needs of each student and an intervention block is included in the master schedule to ensure time and resources are available
- District and local behavioral expectations are posted, taught, reviewed, and enforced to provide an effective learning environment for all students
- Provide opportunities for teachers to collaborate, demonstrate, and share best practices and instructional strategies in small and large group settings

Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. A few ways we can work together:

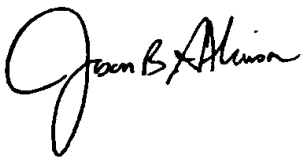
- Make sure that both you and your student are aware of academic expectations set for your student this school year.
- Make sure that your student is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your student's homework.
- Monitor the progress your student is making and attend meetings with your student's teacher(s).
- Keep track of the school website and school social media sites.
- Always reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns.

Collaboratively, we can work together to ensure that our students are successful in meeting their academic goals. We are excited about this school year and are working to make it successful for your student. Here are some resources available to help you learn more about academic standards and achievement results:

- K-12 standards in academic subjects: www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/
- State student achievement test results: www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/
- NC School Report Cards: <https://ncreports.ondemand.sas.com/src/>

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Mr. Bobby Godwin, principal of Elizabethtown Middle School, at (910) 862-4071 or by email at bdgodwin@bladen.k12.nc.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason B. Atkinson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "J".

Jason B. Atkinson, Ed.D.
Superintendent