Candor Elementary School
414 S. Main St. Candor, NC 27229
Phone (910) 974-4582 Fax: (910) 974-4315
Adam L. Matthews, Principal
Adriane Clarett, Assistant Principal

October 1st, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Legislation (G.S. §115C-83.15) passed during the 2013 long session of the North Carolina General Assembly provides parents with an additional measure of school performance in the form of School Performance Grades. Beginning with the 2013–14 school year, the annual North Carolina School Report Cards display a letter grade of A, B, C, D, or F for each school in the state.

The School Performance Grades are based 80 percent on our school's achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students' academic growth. At Candor Elementary, our achievement score for the 2023-2024 school year is based on how well our students performed on ***the following tests Grades 3–5 Mathematics, Grades 3–5 English Language Arts/Reading, and Grade 5 Science.***

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Candor Elementary has been designated as a low-performing school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As defined in G.S. 115C-105.37: "The State Board of Education shall identify low-performing schools on an annual basis. Low-performing schools are those that earn an overall school performance grade of D or F and a school growth score of "met expected growth" or "not met expected growth" as defined by G.S. 115C-83.15."

Candor Elementary received a School Performance Grade of ***D*** and a growth designation of **met expected growth in Reading and Math** for the 2023–2024 school year. Although we are committed to improving this score, it is important to remember that just as no single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about a school's performance or the opportunities that our school provides.

As a low-performing school, we are required to develop an improvement plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve both the school performance grade and school growth score. The plan will also include how the superintendent and other central office administrators in the district will work with us and monitor the progress of our school. We are already engaged in the work of refining our plan and will present the plan to our school board at their next meeting, **Monday, October 7th at Montgomery County School Central Office** where the plan will be presented for approval. The final plan will be available for review at **www.montgomery.k12.nc.us.**

One of our top priorities for 2023–2024 is to improve our School Performance Grade. There are a number of key strategies/programs we have in place to help improve student performance. These include:

- Small group targeted instruction for all students performing below or well below grade level
- Increased intervention time each day in reading and math (60 min) for student performing below or well below grade level
- One-on-one tutoring for students in grades 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, provided by the Future Forward grant for a select number of students.
- NC Ed Corp Tutors will provide support in Grades 3-5 with small group literacy instruction.
- Tutoring for grades 4-5 beginning in October..
- Teacher data notebooks for student tracking.
- Push-in support (strategic intervention support) by staff during the school day
- Increased resources in parent resource center for targeted reading

We hope you will closely follow your student's academic progress and work with his or her teacher(s) to help ensure they stay on track academically. ***Working together with you as a team, we can improve not only how well our students are performing individually, but how our school is performing overall on our school composite score.*** There is nothing more important to administrators and teachers at Candor Elementary than ensuring students are ready for the next step in their academic careers. I look forward to working with you to make sure your student is on track for success.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our School Performance Grade and how we plan to improve, please don't hesitate to contact Mr. Adam L. Matthews at 910-974-4582 or by email at adam.matthews@montgomery.k12.nc.us.

Sincerely,

Mr. Adam L. Matthews

Principal

Candor Elementary School