VALLE CRUCIS SCHOOL

2998 BROADSTONE ROAD
SUGAR GROVE, NORTH CAROLINA 28679
PHONE: 828-963-4712

DR. BONNIE S. SMITH
PRINCIPAL

Dear Parent/Guardian: November 2024

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in Valle Crucis School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Valle Crucis 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, Valle Crucis 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 and Retention of Effective Teachers
- Support for Grade-to-Grade Transitions
- Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision-Making
- Student Support Services
- Family and Community Engagement

Our students need to experience higher achievement levels, but it will require hard work on the part of staff, students and families. We have set the following goals for Valle Crucis School this year:

- Provide quality instruction at core to support students learning and growth in all subjects
- Along with core, provide tier 2 and 3 interventions to support student learning
- Address specific needs based on data
- Support students' social-emotional learning (SEL) with emphasis on the Behavior Framework
- Monitor student progress and respond with appropriate interventions and enrichment
- Use supports and services provided by the district

Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways we can

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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)
- Contact the school or your child's teacher 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
- Join and volunteer with the VCS PTSO
- Schoolwide teacher and parent communication using ClassDojo

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:

- https://www.wataugaschools.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. Already, we have:

- Professional development for staff
- NC Check-ins Administration
- Student assistance referral process
- Partnered with PTSO to support classroom teachers and instruction

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Dr. Smith at smithb@wataugaschools.org or 828-963-4712.

Sincerely,

Bonnie S. Smith, Ed.D.