



**2811 Oaks Road
New Bern, NC 28560
Phone: (252)514-6475
FAX: (252)514-6478
Dr. Suzanne Averitt, Principal
Anna Day, Assistant Principal**

November 8, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I am writing this letter to notify you that Oaks Road Academy has been dually designated as both a North Carolina Low-Performing school and a federally identified Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) 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." Legislation (G.S. §115C-83.15) passed during the 2013 long North Carolina General Assembly session 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.

School Performance Grades are based 80 percent on our school's achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students' academic growth. At Oaks Road Academy, our achievement score for the 2023–2024 school year is based on how well our students performed on Grades 3–8 Mathematics, Grades 3–8 English Language Arts/Reading, Grades 5 and additional indicators including English Learner Progress). ORA received a School Performance Grade of D and a growth designation of Did Not Meet for the 2023–2024 school year.

In addition, per the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1111(d)(2), schools receive the federal identification of TSI-AT in North Carolina by having one or more of the following subgroups receive a subgroup performance grade score at or below the lowest 5% of schools across the state during the 2022–2023 academic year; and being identified as a consistently underperforming subgroup for the previous year. Subgroup performance scores are provided for the following subgroups of students: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners.

As a dually designated TSI-AT and NC low-performing school, Oaks Road Academy is required to develop a comprehensive improvement plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve student achievement. The plan will also include strategies that our district or charter will

employ to support ORA's improvement efforts. The comprehensive improvement plan will address the following areas:

- Classroom Management
- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Instructional Leadership
- Recruitment & Retention of Effective Teachers
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Family and Community Engagement

We have set the following goals for Oaks Road Academy this year:

- Oaks Road Academy will increase school performance grade by exceeding growth expectations in the 2025-2026 school year.
- 3rd grade will increase the percentage of students meeting 3rd grade Read to Achieve benchmark expectations to 80% by 2025.
- Oaks Road Academy will implement a teaming structure within our PBIS system to decrease office referrals.

Here are some strategies that Insert the name of the school will be implementing to improve student outcomes:

- Grade level teams meet with administration and an instructional coach at least twice a week to write aligned lesson plans.
- Administrators observe classroom instruction daily.
- Implement a Multi-tiered System of support for academics, behavior, and attendance.
- Utilize Classdojo to improve classroom discipline.

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

- Ensure you and your child know the academic expectations for your child this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your child's teacher(s).
- Call *Dr. Averitt* at 252-514-6475 if you have questions or concerns about your child or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member who will be working with your child.
- Make sure that your child is prepared and attends school each day, arrives before 7:50 and stays at school until dismissal.
- Monitor your child's homework.
- Monitor the progress your child is making and attend meetings with your child's teacher(s).
- Keep track of our website (<https://ora.cravenk12.org>), ClassDojo, and social media site (<https://www.facebook.com/OaksRoadOwls>).
- Volunteer.

Additionally, listed below are a few resources available to help:

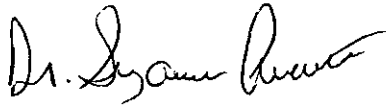
- Graduation requirements: www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/
- State student achievement test results: www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/data-reports/school-report-cards>

We are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no one single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about the performance of a school or the opportunities that our school provides. The intent of receiving these designations is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction. We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your child. Already, we have:

- Trained all staff members in AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) strategies.
- Trained all teachers in effective classroom management skills.
- Hired an additional school counselor to ensure the social/emotional needs of our students are met.
- Coordinated with Centenary United Methodist Church to obtain volunteers in every classroom.
- Scheduled Monthly Family Title 1 nights.
- Created a bell to bell classroom schedule that allows students and staff to make the most of every instructional moment.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Dr. Suzanne Averitt at suzanne.averitt@cravenk12.org or 252-514-6475.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Suzanne Averitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "S".

Dr. Suzanne Averitt