

Graham A. Barden Elementary School



200 Cedar Drive

Havelock, NC 28532

252-444-5100 (main) 252-444-5103 (fax)

www.cravenk12.org/gab



Keith Davis, Principal

Leilani Camden, Assistant Principal

November 8, 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 Graham A. Barden Elementary School, our achievement score for the 2023-2024 school year is based on how well our students performed on measures based on Grades 3–5 Mathematics, Grades 3–5 English Language Arts/Reading, Grades 5 Science end of grade (EOG) state assessments.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Graham A. Barden Elementary School 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." Graham A. Barden Elementary School received a School Performance Grade of D and a growth designation of "Not Met" for the 2023–2024 school year. Although we are committed to improving this score, 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.

Our school currently offers daily intervention blocks, extended blocks of time for reading and math, AIG programs, Battle of the Books, and a school-based interventionist. 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 which was presented to our school board on Tuesday, October 2, 2024, where the plan was presented for approval. The final plan will be available for review on our school website: www.cravenk12.org/GAB.

We are...One Jet, One Flight and One Squad!!!!

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Keith L. Davis, Principal Phone: 252.444.5100
Leilani Camden, Assistant Principal 252. 444. 5100
Fax: 252.444.5103

One of our top priorities for 2024–2025 is to improve our School Performance Grade. There are a number of key programs we have in place to help improve student performance. These include:

- By the end of the 2024-2025 school year, the reading proficiency of students will increase to 55.7% or higher as measured by the NC EOG, by increasing the level of rigor in assignments.
- By the end of the 2024-2025 school year, the math proficiency of students will increase to 50.2% or higher as measured by the NC EOG, by using consistent mathematical strategies and increasing the level of rigor in word problems.
- By the end of the 2024-2025 school year, the science proficiency of students will increase to 70.2% or higher as measured by the NC EOG, by increasing the rigor of explicit vocabulary instruction and offering hands-on learning opportunities.

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 as a team, we can improve not only how well our students are performing individually, but how our school is performing as a whole. There is nothing more important to administrators and teachers at Graham A. Barden Elementary School than the assurance that 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 Keith L. Davis at 252.444.5100 or via email at keith.davis@cravenk12.org.

Sincerely,

Keith L. Davis

Keith L. Davis
Principal
Graham A. Barden Elementary School