

Selina P. Latimore



John P. Thomas Elementary

"The value of our lives is determined by what we do for others." Unknown Author

November 22, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

School Rating Update - Underperforming School Designation

We are writing to share important information regarding John P. Thomas Elementary School and its recent rating of Below Average by the South Carolina State Department of Education (SCDE). In the recently released report card for the academic year 2023-2024, our school was rated as an Underperforming School. This designation is given to schools whose overall report card score falls in the Below-Average to Unsatisfactory range. We understand that this news may be concerning, and we want to assure you that we take this rating seriously.

At John P. Thomas Elementary School, our commitment to providing an excellent education for your children remains unwavering. We are dedicated to addressing the issues that have led to this rating and taking steps to ensure your child's success. Your support as parents and guardians is invaluable in this endeavor.

Our school is developing a Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) to address this rating and make necessary improvements. This plan will outline specific strategies and actions that we will implement to enhance our school's academic performance. We will also work on engaging with you to gain valuable feedback and insights to shape this plan along with our School Improvement Council (SIC).

The Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) will be presented to our Board of School Commissioners for approval before the January 14, 2025, deadline for the plan to be delivered to the SCDE by their January 30, 2025, deadline. Furthermore, schools ranked as Unsatisfactory will regularly update the Board of School Commissioners on our progress each quarter beginning in March 2025. This ensures transparency and accountability in our efforts to improve.

We encourage you to actively participate in this process by sharing your thoughts and suggestions. Your input is crucial as we work together to enhance the educational experience for your child and all our students. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or would like to be involved in developing and implementing the CIP.

We are dedicated to working collaboratively with our teachers, staff, parents, and the community to address the challenges that have led to this rating. With your continued support, we are confident that John P. Thomas Elementary School can make the necessary changes to ensure a brighter future for our students.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. We are here to assist you and to work together to improve our school.

Sincerely,

Selina P. Latimore

Selina P. Latimore
Principal

RICHLAND COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE

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