



October 17, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As a parent/guardian of a student in Ceasar Cone Elementary, I am writing this letter to let you know that Ceasar Cone Elementary, has been designated as a Comprehensive Support & Improvement Low-Performing (CSI-LP) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111(c)(4)(D)(i), North Carolina had to identify schools for comprehensive support and improvement. CSI-LP schools in North Carolina are found in the lowest-performing 5 percent of all schools receiving Title I funding. 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 CSI-LP school, Ceasar Cone Elementary 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 & Retention of Effective Teachers
- Support for Grade-to-Grade Transitions
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Student Support Services
- Family and Community Engagement

We have set the following goals for the 2024-2025 school year at Ceasar Cone Elementary:

- By June 2025, the percentage of students who were chronically absent will decrease by 5 percentage points from 44% to 39%.
- By June 2025, the number of lost instructional days due to in-school and out-of-school suspensions will be decreased by 10% from 83 to 75.
- By June 2025, Reading Proficiency (grades 3 through 5) by at least 3 percentage points from 28.7 to 31.7.
- By June 2025, Math Proficiency (grades 3 through 5) by at least 3 percentage points from 37.6 to 40.6.
- By June 2025, Science Proficiency (grade 5) by at least 3 percentage points from 40.6 to 43.6.



Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways we can 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).
- 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, please contact the school office at 336-375-2595.
- 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 @conecougars on X and @conecougarsgcs on Instagram.
- Volunteer.
- Attend parent meetings and family nights throughout the year.

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:

- 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're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your students. Already, we have gotten confirmation that we have:

- Exceeded growth as a school
- Improved the school performance grade by 9 points from a F to a D
- Come off the low performing list for the year
- Reduced the amount of lost instructional days

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact me at peeples2@gcsnc.com or 336-375-2595.

Sincerely,

Shannon B. Peeples, Ed.D.

Principal

Cesar Cone Elementary School