



October 28, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year is off to a successful start for you and your child. I am writing this letter to let you know that Herbin-Metz Education Center has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. Per ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), schools are identified as TSI-AT schools in North Carolina because one or more of the following subgroups received a subgroup performance grade score at or below the highest identified CSI-LP school's All Students group during the identification year; and is on the TSI-CU list for the subgroup(s) for the previous year. Subgroup performance scores are provided for the following subgroups: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners. This letter is to notify our parents and guardians of Herbin-Metz Education Center's intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As a TSI-AT (ATSI) school, Herbin-Metz Education Center is required to develop an Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve outcomes for underperforming subgroups. The plan will also include strategies that our district or charter will employ to support Herbin-Metz Education Center's improvement efforts. The ATSI 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 Herbin-Metz Education Center this year:

- By June 2026, using a criterion-referenced assessment tool, all students will use words and/or pictures to express wants and/or needs.
- By June 2026, tier 1 and tier 2 student incident reports will decrease by 25%.
- By June 2026, student placement in less restrictive environment will increase to 10%.
- By June 2026, all students will complete a criterion-referenced assessment as measured by submitted baseline reports.
- By June 2026, unexcused student absences will decrease by 10%.

Here are some strategies that we will be implementing to improve student outcomes:

- Parent training on how to use AAC/communication device in the home and community
- Utilization of Quality Programming Tool and Classroom Fidelity Tools
- Professional Development on VB-MAPP use and scoring
- Monthly meetings with Attendance Team to review Chronic Absences and Unexcused Absences
- Implement Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) across academic, behavioral/SEL, and attendance areas

Also, parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways we can work together:

- Ensure that both you and your child know the academic expectations set for your child this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).
- Call Sue Harvey at 336-333-7065 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 child.
- Make sure that your child is prepared and attends school each day.
- 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 and social media sites:

https://www.gcsnc.com/herbin-metz_education_center

<https://www.facebook.com/Herbin.Metz.Chameleons>

- Volunteer.
- Join the HMEC Parent Teacher Association



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

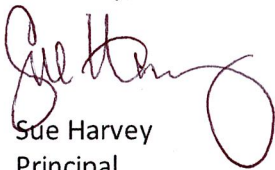
- Graduation requirements: www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/
- State student achievement test results: www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>

We are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about a school's performance 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:

- More than 65% of our families who attended Open House/Title I Night
- Teachers who received professional development on utilizing the VB-MAPP for IEP planning purposes

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Sue Harvey at 336-333-7065 or via email at harveys2@gcsnc.com.

Sincerely,



Sue Harvey
Principal