



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 Western Guilford Middle School 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 Western Guilford Middle School's intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As a TSI-AT (ATSI) school, Western Guilford Middle School 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 Western Guilford Middle School'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 Western Guilford Middle School this year:

- By June 2025 Western Guilford Middle School's 6th – 8th Grade ELA will increase by 3 percentage points from 39.7 to 42.7%.
- By June 2025, Western Guilford Middle School's 6th – 8th Grade Math will increase by 3 percentage points from 35.9% to 38.9%.
- By June 2025, Western Guilford Middle School's Math 1 will increase by 3 percentage points from 84.8% to 87.8%.
- By June 2025, Western Guilford Middle School's 8th Grade Science will increase by 3 percentage points from 64.6% to 67.6%.
- By 2025, Western Guilford Middle School's Chronic Absences will decrease 5 percentage points from 33.6% to 28.6%.
- By June 2025, Western Guilford Middle School's number of Lost Instructional Days due to In-School and Out-of-School Suspensions will decrease by 10% from 959 to 863.

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

- Provide teachers with Leader In Me training to assist with teaching students appropriate behaviors and goal setting.
- Monitor teacher effectiveness on classroom management during walkthroughs and observations
- Conduct weekly learning walks with administrators, teachers, and multi-classroom leaders.
- Ensuring that lesson plans include Multi-Language Learners and Exceptional Children strategies.
- The principal will communicate effectively with families for Parent Engagement Nights to support student academic growth.
- Provide parents with opportunities to participate in conferences, curriculum nights, open houses and orientations, Title 1 nights, and other school events.
- Conduct monthly data conversations with students about their projected growth, current data, and provide students opportunities to attend Learning Hub twice a week.

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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 Western Guilford Middle School 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 [https://www.gcsnc.com/western\\_guilford\\_middle](https://www.gcsnc.com/western_guilford_middle) and our social media on Facebook at Western Guilford Middle School
- Volunteer.
- Join the of Parent Teacher Association

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

- Graduation requirements: [www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/)
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: [www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/)
- State student achievement test results: [www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/](http://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:

- Held Title I/Curriculum Engagement Night
- Hispanic Heritage Engagement Night
- Preparing for our Quarter 1 Awards Program
- Started Learning Hub as an intervention to support student learning after school for free
- As of 2024-25 School year, we are no longer identified as a Low Performing School
- During the 2023-24 School Year, we were identified as a school that exceeded expected growth by the state of North Carolina.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Chase Arrington at [arringc@gcsnc.com](mailto:arringc@gcsnc.com) or 336-316-5833.

Sincerely,

Chase Arrington