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Jason B. Atkinson, Ed.D.  
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September 16, 2025

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.

School Performance Grades (SPGs) are based on two measures:

- Eighty percent (80%) comes from our school's achievement score (student proficiency). At Bladen Lakes Primary, this includes how well our students performed on the End-of-Grade Reading, Math, and Science Assessments.
- Twenty percent (20%) comes from the amount of progress or growth students made on standardized tests in a given year.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Bladen Lakes Primary 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/F" and "met expected growth" or "did not meet expected growth" as defined by G.S. 115C-83.15.*"

Based on the 2024-25 scores, our school received a School Performance Grade of "D" and a growth designation of "MET expected growth." While this designation is an important measure, it does not tell the full story of our students, our teachers, or the many opportunities Bladen Lakes Primary provides for children.

#### Moving Forward: Our Improvement Plan

To improve both achievement and growth in the 2025–26 school year, we are setting clear goals and refining our School Improvement Plan. The plan will target strategies where improvement is most needed and will be presented to the Board of Education at the October 13, 2025 meeting at 6:00 p.m. It will also be posted on our school website for families to review.

Our staff will also engage in strong professional development, supported by our central office team, and progress will be monitored throughout the year. As your principal, I am committed to working diligently so that every student in every classroom experiences success.

### Our Priorities

Bladen Lakes Primary School has defined several priorities for the 2025-26 school year to help improve our School Performance Grade. One of our top priorities for 2025–2026 to improve our School Performance Grade is to increase reading achievement schoolwide. Our school will also focus on several other key strategies and programs to strengthen and improve our school program. Below are a few initiatives that we are excited to share!

- Every student is a reader! Reading is the foundation for all other learning. We have adopted and will implement a high-quality, research-based reading curriculum aligned to state standards to improve literacy for all students. We will focus explicitly on expanding vocabulary and small group instruction to support students that experience reading challenges.
- Every student is a leader! We are excited to strengthen our school culture and establish student leadership roles through the Leader in Me Program. We will educate and engage our parent and community partnerships to reinforce these leadership goals and build literacy at home.
- Every student can succeed! Our teachers will monitor student progress during teaching, at the end of each lesson, and provide student support to close learning gaps as they are identified. We will be examining our students' data frequently. As parents/family, you can help by ensuring that homework is completed, reading for 15 minutes each day at home and staying in constant communication with your child's teacher. Please be a part of your student's academic journey and let's work together to keep our students focused and on track for success.

### Working Together

Improving student performance is a team effort. Together, we can ensure that every child at Bladen Lakes Primary is prepared for the next step in their academic journey. Your support and partnership are essential to this work, and we thank you for all you do for our school community..

If you have any questions regarding the School Performance Grade or the school's plans for improvement, please do not hesitate to contact Joyce Spencer, Principal at Bladen Lakes Primary School. You may also visit or call the school at 910-247-4608, or contact us by email, [jspencer@bladen.k12.nc.us](mailto:jspencer@bladen.k12.nc.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason B. Atkinson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jason B. Atkinson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent