



Sandy Grove Middle School
300 Chason Rd.
Lumber Bridge, NC 28357
910-875-3559

Dr. Franklin Bowden, Jr., Principal

Mr. Seth White, Assistant Principal

Ms. Tiffany Tyler, Assistant Principal

September 26th 2025,

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I am writing to let you know that Sandy Grove School has been identified as a Low Performing School by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Low Performing Schools are identified as a school that has received performance grade D or F and with a school growth status of “met” or “not met”. Sandy Grove’s performance grade is a “D” with a school performance score of 45. Sandy Grove Middle School did not meet growth based on the Education Value-Added Assessment System (EVAAS).

Low Performing Schools must select interventions providing the following considerations:

- Aligned to the school needs assessment
- Supported through school processes (e.g., increased learning time)
- Effective instructional methods or practices appropriate for identified subgroups
- High quality job-embedded professional development
- Use of data
- Family and community engagement

We continue to strive for improvements in student achievement. The Hoke County School System is a world-class learning center. We engage all members of our diverse student population in rigorous and relevant schoolwork that prepares them for life in the 21st Century. All Hoke County Schools’ students will graduate college and career ready, globally-competitive, and prepared for life in the 21st Century.

Our students need to experience higher achievement levels, and it will require hard work on the part of staff, students and families. Here are some strategies Sandy Grove Middle School will be implementing:

- Provide additional curriculum support on Common Core State Standards and Essential Standards.
- Use available data to place students in the most appropriate and rigorous courses.
- Implement evidence-based practices that promote cognitive and critical thinking skills
- Place instructional focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).
- Integrate instructional technology into the curriculum to enhance instruction.

Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways you can help:

- Make sure that both you and your student are aware of academic expectations set for your child this school year.
- Make sure that your child is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your child’s assignments
- Monitor and limit the amount of time your child spends watching television and playing video games.
- Call the school if you have questions or concerns about your child or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member who will be working with your child.
- Monitor the progress your child is making and attend meetings with your child’s teacher(s).
- Volunteer.

Sounds like a lot! Preparing our students so that they can succeed against 21st century demands isn’t easy. But it is essential. Here are some resources available to help:

- School and District Webpage
- Graduation requirements: www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/standards/
- N.C.School Report Cards: www.ncreportcards.org/

We're excited about this coming school year and we are working hard to make it a successful experience for your child. Respectfully,

Dr. Franklin Bowden Jr.
Principal