

Piedmont Open Middle School, An IB World School

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Dear Piedmont Families,

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 Piedmont has been designated as an Additional Targeted Support & Improvement (ATSI) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. Per ESSA Section 1111(d)(2)(C), schools are identified as ATSI 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 Piedmont's intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As an ATSI school, Piedmont 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 Piedmont's improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas:

- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Instructional Leadership
- Support for Grade-to-Grade Transitions
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making

We have set the following goals for Piedmont this year:

- The percentage of 6th-8th grade students scoring at or above Grade Level Proficient (GLP) on MOY Reading and Math Benchmark exams will increase from 56.4% in 2024-2025 to 59% in 2025-2026.
- The percentage of 7th and 8th grade students who score at the College and Career (CCR) level - 4 or 5 - on the Math 1 EOC will increase from 86.6% in 2024-2025 to 89% in 2025-2026.

- The percentage of 6th-8th grade students who score at the College and Career (CCR) level - 4 or 5 - on the Mathematics EOG will increase from 52.6% in 2024-2025 to 55% in 2025-2026.
- The percentage of 6th-8th grade students who score at the College and Career (CCR) level - 4 or 5 - on the Reading EOG will increase from 42.5% in 2024-2025 to 45% in 2025-2026.
- We will meet or exceed expected Educator Value Added Assessment System (EVAAS) growth.

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

- We will provide professional development informed by data from our EC team, with a focus on supporting EC students in general education classrooms.
- To support students with disabilities across all tiers of instruction, we will implement targeted interventions that are aligned with IEP goals and evidence-based practices.
- EC staff will collaborate with general education teachers to co-plan and co-deliver differentiated instruction, ensuring accessibility and progress monitoring.

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 Piedmont 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://piedmontms.cmsk12.org>
- Volunteer.
- Join the PTSA

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

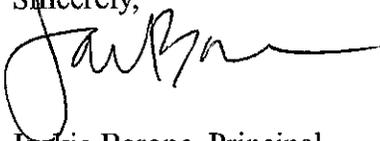
- Graduation requirements: www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/
- State student achievement test results: www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>

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:

- IB curriculum and activities happening in all content areas

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact me at jackie.barone@cms.k12.nc.us or (980)343-5435.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jackie Barone', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jackie Barone, Principal