



Guilford
COUNTY SCHOOLS

November 13, 2025

As a parent/guardian of a student in Ferndale Middle School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Ferndale Middle School, has been designated as a Comprehensive Support & Improvement Low-Performing (CSI-LP) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111(c)(4)(D)(i), North Carolina had to identify schools for comprehensive support and improvement. CSI-LP schools in North Carolina are those found in the lowest-performing 5 percent of all schools receiving Title I funding. The intent of this opportunity is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction.

As a CSI-LP school, Ferndale Middle School is required to develop a comprehensive plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve student achievement. The plan will also include how our district will support us and monitor the progress of our school. The comprehensive 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 Ferndale Middle School this year:

- In the 2025-2026 school year, Ferndale Middle School will focus on the exploration of the secondary pathways that lead our students towards the experience pathways within our feeder pattern via multiple exploration points.
- By the end of the 2025-26 school year, we will increase the percentage of students demonstrating proficiency in all courses as measured by the performance composite from 33.3% to 36.3%.
- Educators actively engage families and students from our diverse population in problem-solving when their children need additional support. We will also provide intensive outreach to unresponsive families to increase their skills in supporting student learning.

714 Green Valley Road | Greensboro, NC 27408 | P 336.370.8100

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

- Make sure that both you and your student are aware of academic expectations set for your student this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).
- Call your student's counselor: Mrs. Bell or Ms. McCormick at (336) 819-2855 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 student.
- Make sure that your student is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your student's homework.
- Monitor the progress your student is making and attend meetings with your student's teacher(s).
- Keep track of our website and social media sites (IG: FerndaleHP1931)
- Volunteer.

Sounds like a lot but preparing our students so that they can succeed is not easy and is a group effort. Here are some 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://www.dpi.nc.gov/data-reports/school-report-cards>

We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student. Already, we have:

- Improved student attendance
- Had a successful family curriculum night
- Achieved highest growth in GCS for the 2024-25 school year

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact our principal Dr. Chelsea Smith at smithc23@gcsnc.com or (336) 819-2855

Dr. Chelsea Smith
Principal

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