

October 9, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am writing this letter to notify you that ***Creekside Elementary*** has been dually designated as both a North Carolina Low-Performing school and a federally identified Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) 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 or F and a school growth score of "met expected growth" or "not met expected growth" as defined by G.S. 115C-83.15." Legislation (G.S. §115C-83.15) passed during the 2013 long North Carolina General Assembly session 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 are based 80 percent on our school's achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students' academic growth. At ***Creekside***, our achievement score for the 2022-2023 school year is based on how well our students performed our achievement score for the 2022-2023 school year is based on how well our students performed on *Grades 3–5 Mathematics, Grades 3–5 English Language Arts/Reading, Grade 5 Science, and NC Math 1.* Creekside Elementary received a School Performance Grade of D and a growth designation of Not Met for the 2022–2023 school year.

In addition, per the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1111(d)(2), schools receive the federal identification of TSI-AT in North Carolina by having one or more of the following subgroups receive a subgroup performance grade score at or below the lowest 5% of schools across the state during the 2021-2022 academic year; and being identified as a consistently underperforming subgroup in 2019-2020. Subgroup performance scores are provided for the following subgroups of students: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners.

As a TSI-AT (ATSI) school, ***Creekside*** 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 ***Creekside's*** improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas

- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Instructional Leadership
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Family and Community Engagement

We have set the following goals for ***Creekside*** this year:

- Increase proficiency by 8 percentage points in all areas.
- Reduce suspensions and student time-out of class by 15%.
- Improving core instruction through the Learning Focused Model.
- Foster shared responsibility for student success by increasing communication between home, school, and community.

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

- Small group instruction in all K-5 classrooms
- WIN block period for 30 minutes daily for interventions, remediation and enrichment
- iReady differentiated instructional program for K5 students
- Reading Horizons Phonics program

- Support from our EPS District team and the Exceptional Children's Department
- Support from United Way for our After School Program
- PBIS to support positive behaviors and reduce suspension
- Title 1 funded remediation teachers
- AVID implementation for 4th and 5th graders
- AIG and GO Grow enrichment support
- LETRS professional development for teachers

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 your child's teacher 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 and social media sites [**https://www.facebook.com/csecardinals**](https://www.facebook.com/csecardinals)

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://www.dpi.nc.gov/data-reports/school-report-cards>

We are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no one single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about the performance of a school 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 hope you will closely follow your student's academic progress and work with his or her teacher(s) to help ensure they stay on track academically. Working together as a team, we can improve not only how well our students are performing individually, but how our school is performing as a whole. There is nothing more important to administrators and teachers at Creekside than ensuring students are ready for the next step in their academic careers. I look forward to working with you to make sure your student is on track for success.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our School Performance Grade and how we plan to improve, please don't hesitate to contact Yolanda Williams at williay@pitt.k12.nc.us.

Sincerely,

Yolanda Williams