Charlotte-Mecklenburg Academy

5833 Milhaven Lane
Charlotte, NC, 28216

980.343.0680

11/13/25

Dear Parent / Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent / guardian of a student in ***Charlotte-Mecklenburg Academy***, I am writing this letter to let you know that ***Charlotte-Mecklenburg Academy,*** 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)(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. ***Charlotte-Mecklenburg Academy***, has also been designated as a Comprehensive Support & Improvement Low-Graduation Rate (CSI-LG) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. CSI-LG schools in North Carolina are high schools that have a 4-year cohort graduation rate of less than 66.7%. 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 and CSI-LG school, ***Charlotte-Mecklenburg Academy*** 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
- Standard-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 ***Charlotte-Mecklenburg Academy*** this year:

- The percent of students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on reading End of Grade assessments in grades 3-8 will increase from 5.1 % in SY 24-25 to 15% in SY 25-26 (Goal 2)
- *The percent of students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on Math 1 assessments will increase from 11.1% in SY 24-25 to 20% in SY 25-26. (Goal 3)*
- *The percent of rising 12th grade students on track to graduate from high school completing a CTE (Career & Technical Education) pathway will increase from 0% to 33% (Goal 4)*
- *The percent of students scoring Grade Level Proficient (GLP), on math End of Grade assessments in grades 3-8 will increase from 0% in SY 24-25 to 25% in SY 25-26 (Guardrail 1)*
- *The percent of OSS/ISS incidents will decrease by 14% from 105 incidents of OSS in SY 24-25 to 90 incidents of OSS in SY 25-26. (Guardrail 2)*
- *100% of classroom teachers will implement Capturing Kids Hearts with fidelity. (Guardrail 3)*
- *The school will retain 90% of licensed classroom teachers throughout the 25-26 school year. (Guardrail 4)*

Our students need to experience higher achievement levels, but it will require hard work on the part of staff, students and families. Here are some strategies ***Charlotte-Mecklenburg Academy*** will be implementing:

- *Continued partnership with University Instructors to provide high-quality standards aligned instruction infused with high-leverage specially designed instructional strategies and supports.*
- *Implementation of a differentiated master schedule which provides all CMA students the opportunity to RISE (Reach Inspire Support and Empower). Where students will develop the skills and provided the supports to help them get and stay on track for graduation.*
- *Support the development of the whole child in a prosocial learning environment through consistent effective classroom management and direct instruction to support the development and use of emotional regulation skills using a variety of school-wide programs.*
- *Implementing data-driven instructional and programming decision to 1)make decisions committed to the best interest of students and 2)maximize use of resources (time, people and funding)*

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 child's teacher or assigned student services team member (980)-343-0680*** 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.
- 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:

- We have a 2025-2026 Parent Handbook available in our Parent Center, come by the school to grab your copy!
- 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're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student. Already, we have:

- *Improved average daily student attendance by 7% and decreased the percentage of students with more than 10 days of unexcused absences by 13% compared to this time last year.*
- *We are seeing exciting academic gains according to our Mastery Connect data.*
- *We are launching our first round of student-led conferences (be on the lookout for an invite if you do not already have one!)*
- *We are excited about the variety of Career Experiences our 5th-12th student have the chance to participate in through the CTE Department.*

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Melissa Manikkam-Melton at melissa.manikkam@cms.k12.nc.us or (980)343-0680**.

Sincerely,

Katherine Waters

Principal