

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 Principal Mitchell at 704.664.2582 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://shepherd.issnc.org/> and <https://www.facebook.com/ShepherdElementarySchool>
- Volunteer.
- Join the Shepherd PTO.

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

- Shepherd Elementary Principal Mitchell at 704.664.2582
- Graduation requirements: [www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/)
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: [www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/)
- State student achievement test results: [www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/)
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://ncreports.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:

- 4th Gr. Reading cohort increased by 12 points
- 4th Gr. Math increased 2 points
- 5th Gr. Science increased 4 points
- 5th Gr. Math - over two years has increased its Math scores by 14 points
- 5th Gr. Reading increased by 5.5 points
- 3rd Gr. BOG increased by 5 points from last year
- 4th Gr. Math met expected growth
- 5th Gr. Math met expected growth
- 4th Gr. Reading met expected growth
- 5th Gr. Reading met expected growth
- 5th Gr. Science met expected growth
- SES Overall Math met expected growth
- Shepherd was listed on US News & World Report's Best Schools

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Principal Mitchell at [kmitchell@iss.k12.nc.us](mailto:kmitchell@iss.k12.nc.us) or 704.664.2582.

Sincerely,

*K. Mitchell*

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