

November 19, 2025

Greetings Alexander Graham School Community,

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 Alexander Graham Middle School 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: **Students with Disabilities, Economically Disadvantaged Students, and English Learners**. This letter is to notify our parents and guardians of Alexander Graham Middle School intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As an ATSI school, Alexander Graham Middle School 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 Alexander Graham Middle School improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas :

- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Instructional Leadership
- Recruitment & Retention of Effective Teachers
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Student Support Services
- Family and Community Engagement

We have set the following goals for Alexander Graham Middle School this year:

- We will increase our SWD subgroup performance grade from a F to a D or higher in 2025-26. (Guardrail 1, D1.02, A. 4.01)
- Increase the percentage of Multilingual learners who make progress towards their English Learner proficiency as measured by access from 12% to 20% and increase the number of exit criteria from 6.8% to 10%.
- We will increase our EDS subgroup performance grade from a F to a D or higher in 2025-26. (Guardrail 1, D1.02, A. 4.01)

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

- Highly qualified teachers
- Professional development focused on teaching students with disabilities

- Professional development focused on teaching students who are English language learners
- Intensified Implementation of Tiered Instructional Systems
- Intensified Implementation of small group instruction
- Intensified Implementation of data-driven decision making

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 teachers at- 980-343-5810, 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://alexandergrahamms.cmsk12.org>
- Volunteer
- Join the Alexander Graham PTO

Additionally, listed below are a few resources available to help: Alexander Graham Middle School

- 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:

- Onboarding of Highly qualified teachers
- Professional development focused on teaching students with disabilities in partnership with CMS District Specialists
- Professional development focused on teaching students who are English language learners in partnership with CMS District Specialists
- Intensified Implementation of Tiered Instructional Systems in partnership with CMS District Specialists
- Intensified Implementation of small group instruction during our daily intervention blocks
- Intensified Implementation of data-driven decision making during our weekly PLC Meetings

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Dr. Alicia Hash** at **aliciag.hash@cms.k12.nc.us**

Sincerely,

Alicia Hash