



November 19, 2025

As a parent/guardian of a student in Cone Elementary School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Cone Elementary 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, Cone Elementary 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 Cone Elementary School this year:

- By the end of the 2025-2026 school year, Cone Elementary School will expose all K-5 students to a minimum of three opportunities that will inform scholars about future careers.
- By June 2026, Cone Elementary School will increase its overall performance composite score from 43 in 2024-25 to 46.
- By May 2026, Cone Elementary School will achieve a rating of "Operationalizing (2)" or beyond on FAM-S Item 21.

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 at 336-375-2595 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 cones.gcsnc.com and Facebook @Cone Elementary.
- Volunteer.
- Join ClassDojo to receive important information throughout the school year.

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:

- Completed a new safety vestibule in the front of the school.
- Began roofing upgrades to the school.
- Two tutors that work with our students during school hours.
- Ongoing staff professional development opportunities designed to enable staff to provide our students with the best possible educational experience.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Mrs. Farmer-Gills at farmerk@gcsnc.com or 336-375-2595

Mrs. Kesandra Farmer-Gills
Principal

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Guilford County Schools administers all educational programs, employment activities and admissions without discrimination because of race, religion, national or ethnic origin, color, age, military service, disability, marital status, parental status, or gender, except where exemption is appropriate and allowed by law.

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