

November 19, 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian:

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 **Crestdale 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: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners. This letter is to notify our parents and guardians of **Crestdale Middle School** intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As an ATSI school, **Crestdale 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 **Crestdale 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
- Support for Grade-to-Grade Transitions
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Student Support Services

We have set the following goals for **Crestdale Middle School** this year:

- ***The percent of students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on Math 1 assessments will increase from 78.3% in SY2024-25 to >90 % in SY2025-26.***
- ***The percentage of students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on Reading End of Grade assessments in grades 6-8 will increase from 40.5% in SY2024-25 to 45% in SY2025-26.***
- ***The number of OSS incidents will decrease 10%, from 148 in SY2024-25 to 133 in SY2025-26.***
- ***Crestdale Middle School's percent of students scoring Grade Level Proficient (GLP) in 8th Grade Science for End of Grade assessments from 75.9% in SY2024-2025 to 90% in SY2025-2026.***
- ***The school will retain 90% of its highly effective classroom teachers throughout the 2025-26 school year.***
- ***The percentage of students (SWD) scoring Grade Level Proficient (GLP) on 8th Grade Reading End of Grade assessments in grades 6-8 will increase from 22.5% in SY2024-2025 to 27.5% in SY2025-26.***
- ***The school will implement CKH components with fidelity, and the percent of Chronic Absenteeism***

*will decrease from 18.25% in SY2024-25 to 15% in SY2025-26.*

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

- ***PLCs will implement consistent and effective processes to implement district-provisioned curriculum and resources, implementing district-provisioned curriculum using Academic Monitoring, Academic Conversations, and Anchor Charts (AAA).***
- ***The school implements a data analysis and action planning process for MVPA data, iReady data, benchmark data, common unit assessments, and other data sources to increase student achievement.***
- ***The MTSS Leadership Team will develop and maintain a continuous cycle of school improvement based on data with specific strategies to address MTSS areas of academics, behavior, SEL, and attendance.***
- ***Use PAW Time to implement small groups, flexible groups, interventions and enrichment for students identified through multiple formal and informal data sources and assessments to support students not performing at grade level.***
- ***Within the 2025-26 school year, our ATSI school will implement the following evidenced-based intervention(s): implement an effective co-teaching model including collaboration within PLCs between the co-teacher and lead teacher to provide targeted support in core classrooms for SWD to increase overall performance of SWD.***
- ***Provide additional instructional coaching and PD to teachers for Math 1 throughout the year to prepare scholars to succeed in advanced coursework and reach >90% CCR in Math 1.***
- ***Implement effective transition strategies (e.g. Wildcat Camp, Transition Meetings, counselor feedback, etc.) at the beginning, middle, and end of year to promote scholar success in the next grade level.***
- ***The Instructional Leadership Team will implement a structured coaching model to provide tiered instructional support to all teachers.***
- ***All staff will implement consistent, effective, and fair grading practices aligned with the CMS Grading Plan and implement a quarterly analysis of their grade distribution, including a causal analysis. This is to ensure equitable instruction and grading across PLCs.***
- ***Throughout the school year, we will provide ongoing PD on effective coteaching models for EC and ML coteaching teams.***

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 Dylan Marshall or Assistant Principal Miosha Taylor at 980-353-5755*** 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:

**Website:** <https://crestdalems.cmsk12.org/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/CrestdaleWildcats/>

**Instagram:** [https://www.instagram.com/crestdale\\_middle\\_school/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/crestdale_middle_school/?hl=en).

- Volunteer: <https://www.cmsvolunteers.com/>
- Join the ***Crestdale Middle School PTO***

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

- 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://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:

- PAW Time Interventions and Clubs
- Performing Arts Magnet School
- Sources of Strength School
- Capturing Kids Heart School
- Mathletes
- Science Olympiad
- Battle of the Books

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Principal Dylan Marshall at [dylan.marshall@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:dylan.marshall@cms.k12.nc.us) or 980-343-5755.**

Sincerely,

*Dylan Marshall*

**Principal  
Dylan Marshall**