

## Kennedy Middle School

4000 Gallant Lane  
Charlotte, NC 28273

Phone 980-343-5540  
Fax 980-343-5412

November 18, 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 Kennedy 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 Kennedy Middle School's intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As an ATSI school, Kennedy 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 Kennedy Middle School's improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas:

- Classroom Management
- 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

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

- The principal monitors curriculum and classroom instruction regularly and provides timely, clear, constructive feedback to teachers.
- The school implements a tiered instructional system that allows teachers to deliver evidence-based instruction aligned with the individual needs of students across all tiers.
- Instructional Teams develop standards-aligned units of instruction for each subject and grade level.
- All teachers are attentive to students' emotional states, guide students in managing their emotions, and arrange for supports and interventions when necessary.
- The LEA/School has aligned resource allocation (money, time, human resources) within each school's instructional priorities.

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 Kennedy Middle School 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.

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- Stay connected to ParentSquare for school updates.
- Make sure that your child is prepared and attends school each day.
- Please monitor your child's homework and progress by checking Infinite Campus regularly.
- Keep track of our website: [kennedymys.cmsk12.org/](http://kennedymys.cmsk12.org/)
- Volunteer.
- Join the Kennedy 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 many accomplishments this school year:

- Teachers have continued to provide strong instruction by using centers, task cards, and small-group support in all core content areas.
- Our teachers and support staff continue to work together as a unified team to support student learning, safety, and wellbeing.
- Students have been actively engaged in i-Ready Reading and Math. Many classes are meeting or exceeding their weekly usage goals, and students have responded well to the schoolwide incentives that celebrate their progress and effort.
- We continue to see improvements in student engagement and student behavior due to consistent expectations, clear routines, and strong staff-student relationships.
- Kennedy continues to offer a wide range of Electives that support the development of the whole student. Our programs in the Arts, World Languages, Career and Technical Education, Physical Education, and Technology provide students with meaningful opportunities to grow socially, creatively, and academically.
- Our Paxton Patterson career exploration course has been a major success for students. They have had hands-on opportunities to explore STEM, health sciences, engineering, and technical pathways, and students have shared positive feedback about the hands-on labs and real-world connections.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Stuart Turnbull at [stuart.turnbull@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:stuart.turnbull@cms.k12.nc.us) or at 980-343-5540.

Sincerely,



Stuart Turnbull