

## Renaissance West STEAM Academy

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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 Renaissance West STEAM Academy 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 Renaissance West STEAM Academy intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As an ATSI school, Renaissance West STEAM Academy 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 Renaissance West STEAM Academy improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas:

- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Student Support Services

We have set the following goals for Renaissance West STEAM Academy this year:

- Improve reading proficiency for Exceptional Children identified under ATSI by increasing the percentage of students scoring at or above grade level on state reading assessments by 10% by May 2026.
- Increase math benchmark scores by 10% for identified Exceptional Children by the end of the 2025–2026 school year.
- Reduce chronic absenteeism among Exceptional Children by 10% compared to the previous school year by June 2026.

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

- Implement daily small-group reading interventions using evidence-based programs
- Utilize progress monitoring tools (e.g., DIBELS, iReady)
- Provide professional development for teachers on differentiated reading strategies for students.
- Schedule weekly data meetings to review progress and adjust interventions.
- Offer after-school tutoring
- Develop an attendance monitoring system with early alerts for at-risk students.

- Conduct home visits and family conferences to address barriers to attendance.

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 McDaniel, 980-343-0049 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
- Volunteer

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.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Demetrus McDaniel, Principal at [demetrusc.mcdaniel@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:demetrusc.mcdaniel@cms.k12.nc.us) or 980-343-0049.

Sincerely,

*Demetrus C. McDaniel*

Demetrus McDaniel, Principal