

Whitewater Middle

10201 Running Rapids Rd.
(980) 344-3400

November 18, 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The 2025-2026 school year is off to a focused start as we have embodied our theme to Bring the H.E.A.T. (Hardwork - Excellence - Attitude - Tenacity). As you are aware, Whitewater Middle School improved our state letter grade from D to a C. This means that Whitewater Middle School is producing more grade level proficient scholars. This is just the beginning because we now have our sights on the state letter grade B. I am writing this letter to let you know that Whitewater 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 our Students with Disability subgroup performance grade was an F. Even though we meet growth expectations for this subgroup, there is still more work that needs to be done. This letter is to notify our parents and guardians of Whitewater Middle School's intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As an ATSI school, Whitewater 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 Whitewater Middle School's 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
- Classroom Management
- Family and Community Engagement

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

- The percentage of students scoring Grade Level Proficient (GLP) on reading End of Grade assessments in grades 6-8 will increase from 46% in SY2024-25 to 56% in SY2025-26 (Aligns to A2.04 and B3.03 and CMS Goal 3).
- The percent of students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on Math 1 assessments will increase from 69% in SY2024-25 to 80% in SY2025-26 (Aligns to A2.04 and B3.03)

and CMS Goal 3).

- CMS Guardrail 3: The percent of Chronic Absenteeism will decrease from 35% in SY 2024-2025 to 25% in SY 2025-2026 (Aligns to A1.07, A4.06 and CMS Guardrail 3).
- CMS Guardrail 1: The percentage of students with disability students scoring Grade Level Proficient (GLP) 11.8% 2024-25 to 21.8% in SY 2025-26 (Aligns to A4.01, B3.03, D1.02 and CMS Guardrail 1).
- CMS Guardrail 2: The number of OSS/ISS incidents will decrease from 40% in SY 2024-25 to 20% in SY 2025-26 (Aligns to A1.07, A4.06, and CMS Guardrail 2).
- CMS Guardrail 4: The school will retain 95% of its highly effective classroom teachers throughout the 2025-26(Aligns to C3.04 and CMS Guardrail 4).
- CMS Guardrail 1: The percent of students scoring Grade Level Proficient (GLP) science End of Grade assessments in grade 8 will increase from 46.1% in SY 2024-25 to 60.1% in SY 2025-26 (Aligns to A4.01, B3.03, D1.02 and CMS Guardrail 1).

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

- Feedback
 - Teacher Coaches Supporting Teachers
 - Teacher Mentors Supporting Students
 - Using Data to Guide Teaching
- Planning Lessons Based on Student Needs
 - Small Group and Learning Stations
 - Encouraging students to participate in academic discussions
 - Tracking Academic Progress
- Weekly Teacher Data Meetings
 - Protected Time for Planning
 - Responding to Student Data

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).
- Contact Counselors or grade level admin 980-344-3400 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.
 - 6th Grade
 - **Students last name A-M shanellec.tatum@cms.k12.nc.us
 - **Students last name N-Z kheliam.high@cms.k12.nc.us
 - 7th Grade shanellec.tatum@cms.k12.nc.us - Counselor
 - 8th Grade kheliam.high@cms.k12.nc.us - Counselor
- 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

<https://www.facebook.com/CharMeckSchools/>

- Volunteer.
- Join the WMS PTA

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://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:

- Field Trips
- Groups(Mentor and Organizational)
- Professional Development for Teachers
- Use of Expanded Impact Teachers and Multiclass Leaders to support Beginning Teachers
- STEM Magnet Program
- Diverse Student Body and Inclusive Culture
- School-Based Mental Health Services
- Extracurricular Activities

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Principal Tammillye Ward at tammillye.ward@cms.k12.nc.us or 980-344-3400.

Sincerely,

Tammillye Ward
Principal
Whitewater Middle School

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