



Winding Springs Elementary
6601 Horace Mann Road
Charlotte, North Carolina 28269

11/17/25

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 Winding Springs Elementary School has been designated as an Additional Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (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 Winding Springs Elementary School intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As an ATSI school, Winding Springs Elementary 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 will employ to support Winding Springs Elementary Schools 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
- 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 Winding Springs Elementary School this year as part of our school improvement plan:

- Improved Early Literacy in Grades K-2-
 - Percent of K-2 students scoring at or above benchmark in early literacy as measured by DIBELS will increase from 67% in June 2023 to 91% by June 2029.
- Improved Literacy Skills in Grades 3-8
 - Percent of students scoring CCR (college and career ready) on reading end-of-grade assessments in grades 3-8 will increase from 31% in September 2023 to 50% by June 2029.
- We will exceed expected Educator Value Added Assessment System (EVAAS) growth for our overall school index in SY2025-26.
- We will retain 95% of highly effective staff for the 25-26 school year.
- Increase the number of staff accepted into or reclassified into a higher role with the Teacher Leader Pathway program from 13 to 14.

Our students need to experience higher achievement levels, but it will require hard work on the part of staff, students and families. Here are some strategies Winding Springs Elementary School will be implementing:

- Departmentalization 3rd-5th grade.
- Master schedule strategically and intentionally centered on small group instructional supports.
- Support Staff working with specific groups of students, delivering research based instructional strategies in academic, behavior, and social-emotional learning.

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 child this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language can be requested from your child's teacher(s).
- Call Ms. Medley at 980.343.5140 if you have questions or concerns about your student's academic progress 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:
 - <https://windingspringes.cmsk12.org/>
 - <https://twitter.com/WindingSprings>
 - <https://www.instagram.com/windingspringes/>
 - <https://www.facebook.com/WindingSpringsElementary>
- Volunteer.

Preparing our students to succeed is not easy and is a group effort. Here are some helpful resources:

- <https://windingspringes.cmsk12.org/>
- You can also contact the front office at 980.343.5140 to speak with anyone your child's contact administrator or anyone on the leadership team.
- 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:

- Created and implemented a multisensory B3 lab during student's special area time as well as installed active hallway decals to increase movement throughout the building.
- Implemented the instructional planning approach to ensure instruction is aligned to state standards, focusing on delivering high-quality instruction to ALL students.
- Used informal/formal assessment data to make informed instructional decisions and help ALL students achieve high growth regardless of subgroup.
- Hosted CMS PE Department for multiple whole staff professional developments that center on supporting student social emotional behaviors, increasing active movement throughout the building and classrooms, and serving the whole child.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Ms. Brittany Medley at brittany.cuthbertson@cms.k12.nc.us or 980.343.5140.

Respectfully,



Dr. Matthew Slota
Principal