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"The World Is Our Family"
A North Carolina Public Charter School

CAROLINA
International School
9545 Poplar Tent Road, Concord, NC 28027
704.455.3847 (phone) | 704.455.4672 (fax)

October 24, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We hope your school year has started well. Carolina International School (CIS) is writing to inform you that our school has been identified by the North Carolina State Board of Education as a Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) – Not Exiting Additional Targeted Support & Improvement (AT) school.

This designation is based on federal requirements in ESSA Section 1111(c)(4)(D)(i)(III) for Title I schools. Schools receive this designation when one or more student subgroups do not meet state exit criteria for academic performance. Subgroups monitored by the state include: Students with Disabilities, Economically Disadvantaged, Black, White, Hispanic, Asian-Pacific Islander, Multi-Racial, and English Learners.

The purpose of this designation is to help schools improve educational outcomes for identified student groups and reduce achievement gaps.

What This Means for CIS

- CIS will develop and implement an improvement plan focused on supporting the identified student subgroup(s).
- The plan will include strategies in the following areas: standards-based instruction, data-driven decision making, effective staffing, tiered interventions, and student support services.
- The school's charter and district supports, will be aligned with the improvement plan.

CIS Support Goals for This Year

To address the state requirements, CIS has established the following support goals:

- Support Goal 1: Increase the number of highly qualified Exceptional Children (EC) teachers.
- Support Goal 2: Improve collaboration between general education and EC teachers.
- Support Goal 3: Use data more effectively to monitor student progress and subgroup performance.

Examples of Strategies We Are Implementing

Standards and Instruction

- Weekly professional collaboration among teachers on instructional standards and expectations.
- Use of common assessments to monitor student learning and adjust instruction as needed.
- Instructional coaching to support differentiated and inclusive practices.

Teacher Recruitment and Retention

- Partnerships with preparation programs to attract Exceptional Children teachers.
- Mentorship for new teachers to support onboarding and professional growth.

Tiered Supports for Students

- Universal screening for academic needs three times per year.
- Scheduled intervention blocks for targeted support.

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- Training staff on evidence-based interventions.

Data and Student Progress

- Use of data dashboards to track subgroup progress.
- Monthly data reviews to plan instructional adjustments.
- Student goal setting to support ownership of learning.

Additional Student Supports

- Expanded counseling and social-emotional supports.
- Additional resources for economically disadvantaged students.
- Targeted instructional supports for English Learners.

How Parents and Families Can Help

Family involvement is essential to improving outcomes for students. You can support your child by:

- Reviewing grade-level expectations from your child's teacher.
- Ensuring daily, on-time attendance.
- Monitoring homework and academic progress.
- Attending parent-teacher meetings and school events.
- Staying informed through our website and communication platforms.
- Volunteering or joining the PTSO.

Helpful Resources for Families

- Graduation Requirements: www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/
- K–12 Academic Standards: www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/
- State Testing and Accountability: www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/
- N.C. School Report Cards: https://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src

Our Commitment to Students and Families

CIS remains committed to improving student performance and ensuring that all students receive high-quality instruction and support. No single test or score reflects the full potential of a student or the full scope of what a school offers. This designation is intended to improve equity, increase access to effective instruction, and support continuous school improvement.

Already this school year, CIS has:

- Expanded instructional coaching and PLC collaboration.
- Implemented common assessments to monitor student learning.
- Increased Exceptional Children staffing and instructional supports.
- Added intervention blocks and progress monitoring systems
- Expanded counseling and SEL services for students
- Improved data review processes for subgroup performance.
- Increased family engagement and communication opportunities.

If you have questions regarding this letter or would like to learn more about our improvement plan, please contact Dr. Paul A. Bryant, Head of School, at 704-455-3847 or pbryant@ciscomets.com.

Sincerely,

Signed by:
Dr. Paul A. Bryant
B926107341CE498...
Dr. Paul A. Bryant

Head of School