

February 5, 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I would like to personally thank you for your continuing support of Davidson County Schools, our employees and students. The continuous improvement that we are experiencing is a direct outcome of a collective effort of us all working together. As a district, our academic performance is strong and we provide caring and safe schools for our communities.

We are currently in the second year of the new curriculum and accountability standards and we have many things to celebrate. Twenty-five of our schools met or exceeded expected growth, our 85 percent graduation rate is one of the highest in the state, our high schools are currently experiencing a low 2 percent dropout rate, and nearly 90 percent of our third graders met reading proficiency standards. Together we will continue to advance and develop our schools to ensure that our students are prepared for the challenges of today's world.

On February 5, 2015, North Carolina will release the annual School Report Card for the 2013-14 school year. This report includes important information about school and student performance, class size, attendance, school safety, instructional resources, and teacher quality for each school.

For the first time, each school will receive a letter grade (A-F) to describe its performance. These school performance grades will be comprised of student achievement (80 percent) and growth (20 percent). For some schools that meet or exceed expected growth, the growth calculation would lower their letter grade. In those instances, growth is not included in the letter grade.

A grade can't conceivably reflect all of the things happening in a school; likewise, we should remember that a student is more than a single grade. I know that principals and teachers more than anyone recognize this and they will communicate with you about the activities and progress of your child's school that may not be reflected in a school-wide letter grade.

Again, thank you for your ongoing support of Davidson County Schools. Together we can give our students opportunities to graduate with skills and competencies to meet the challenges they will face in a global environment.

Sincerely

Davidson County Schools



Dr. Lory Morrow
Superintendent