Emma B. Trask Middle School

HOME OF THE BEARS

Emma B. Trask Middle School
2900 N College Road
Wilmington, NC 28405

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November 1, 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year is off to a great start for your family. I am writing to let you know that the NC State Board of Education has identified Trask Middle School as an **Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI)** school. Under ESSA Section 1111(d)(2)(C), a NC school is identified for ATSI when one or more student subgroups earn a subgroup performance score at or below the highest identified CSI-LP school's. Scores are reported for Students with Disabilities, Economically Disadvantaged, Black, White, Hispanic, Asian-Pacific Islander, Multi-racial, and English Learner students. This letter shares how we will improve outcomes for underperforming subgroups and close achievement gaps. We are ATSI in the area of SWD.

Our ATSI improvement plan, supported by NHCS, addresses: classroom management; standards-aligned instruction; Professional Learning Communities (PLCs); instructional leadership; recruiting and retaining effective teachers; grade-to-grade transitions; a tiered instructional system; data-driven decision-making; student support services; and family and community engagement.

Our 2025-26 progress: Our Students with Disabilities (SWD) subgroup **met its overall growth goal**, improving EVAAS growth from −3.80 to +0.5. **Reading:** improved from −2.69 to about −0.7, meeting the goal. **8th Grade Science:** improved from −3.05 to −1.1, just short of the −1.0 goal. **Math:** about −1.2, just below the expected range.

Our goals this year: These are part of our three-year ATSI plan. Each year brings new students, so we will keep building on these gains.

- By June 2027 (data released August 2027), our SWD subgroup will **maintain** overall growth at or above −1.0 (the state's expected range) on End-of-Grade tests.
  - SWD Reading growth will **maintain** at or above −1.0, with every grade level, including 7th grade, moving into the expected range.
  - SWD 8th Grade Science EVAAS growth will **improve** from −1.1 to at least −1.0 on the 8th Grade Science EOG.

How we will get there

- Two Title I-funded teachers for smaller classes
- Bi-weekly PLCs where teachers plan together
- Data digs after every NCCI benchmark
- Reteaching cycles and targeted small groups, including BEAR rotations twice a week
- IEP-aligned supports through EC and gen ed. collab
- Schoolwide routines (CHAMPS/STOIC)
- Quizizz and ZEARN for skill feedback
- PD to strengthen teaching practices

How you can help

- Make sure your child is ready and at school every day
- Know this year's learning goals
- Check homework and grades, and attend teacher meetings
- Call the front office at (910) 350-2142 with questions
- Join the PTA, volunteer, and follow our social media
- Join us for ESL Night, the Spelling Bee, 6th grade presentations, 7th grade Wax Museum, and 8th grade Off to High School Night/Career fair

Helpful resources: Graduation: ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements | Standards: ncpublicschools.org/curriculum | Test results: ncpublicschools.org/accountability | School Report Cards: dpi.nc.gov/data-reports/school-report-cards

No single score tells the whole story of a student or a school. Trask also offers cluster grouping, flexible seating in a renovated building, maker spaces and 3-D printing, STEAM nights, a school musical, athletics, clubs, and an active PTA and booster club. The intent of these designations is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction. We are committed to making this year a success for your child. If you have questions about this letter, please contact me at Kimberly.Clark@nhcs.net or (910) 350-2142.

Sincerely,

Kim Clark, Principal