Sycamore Lane Elementary School

2100 Sycamore Lane

Laurinburg, North Carolina 28352

(910) 384-0679

October 30, 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I am writing this letter to notify you that ***Sycamore Lane Elementary*** has been dually designated as both a North Carolina Low-Performing school and a federally identified Additional Targeted Support & Improvement (ATSI) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education.

As defined in G.S. 115C-105.37: "The State Board of Education shall identify low-performing schools on an annual basis. Low-performing schools are those that earn an overall school performance grade of D or F and a school growth score of "met expected growth" or "not met expected growth" as defined by G.S. 115C-83.15." Legislation (G.S. §115C-83.15) passed during the 2013 long North Carolina General Assembly session provides parents with an additional measure of school performance in the form of School Performance Grades. Beginning with the 2013–14 school year, the annual North Carolina School Report Cards display a letter grade of A, B, C, D, or F for each school in the state.

School Performance Grades are based 80 percent on our school's achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students' academic growth. At ***Sycamore Lane Elementary,*** our achievement score for the ***2026-2027*** school year is based on how well our students performed on ***Grades 3–5 Mathematics, Grades 3–5 English Language Arts/Reading, and Grades 5 Science. Sycamore Lane Elementary*** received a School Performance Grade of *D* and a growth designation of *Met* for the ***2026-2027*** school year.

In addition, per the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1111(d)(2)(C), schools receive the federal identification of TSI-AT in North Carolina by having one or more of the following subgroups receive a subgroup performance grade score at or below the lowest 5% of schools across the state during the ***2025-2026*** academic year; and being identified as a consistently underperforming subgroup for the previous year. Subgroup performance scores are provided for the following subgroups of students: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners.

As a dually designated ATSI and NC low-performing school, ***Sycamore Lane Elementary*** is required to develop a comprehensive improvement plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve student achievement. The plan will also include strategies that our district or charter will employ to support **Sycamore Lane Elementary's** improvement efforts. The comprehensive improvement 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***Sycamore Lane Elementary*** this year:

- By the end of the 2026-2027 school year, Sycamore Lane overall proficiency will increase by 5 percentage points in all content areas through the consistent use of adopted curriculum materials, strong PLCs and daily implementation of high yield strategies (SCS non-negotiables) as evidenced by end-of-year assessment data.

Here are some strategies that ***Sycamore Lane Elementary*** will be implementing to improve student outcomes:

- Creating a Teaching/Learning Ready Classroom Environment
- Annotated Standard and EQ
- Limited Lecture
- Anchor Charts
- Small Group Instruction
- Key Vocabulary(explicit instruction)
- HOT Questions & Tasks
- Graphic Organizers
- Authentic Student Engagement

Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways you can help:

- Ensure you and your child know the academic expectations for your child this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your child's teacher(s).
- Call ***Kachina Singletary at 910-384-0679*** if you have questions or concerns about your child 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 ***[insert links]***.
- Volunteer.
- Join the ***Parent Advisory Board***

Additionally, listed below are a few resources available to help: (***Insert school and/or community resources with contact information and/or use the list below)***

- 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 are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no one single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about the performance of a school 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:

- Classroom Management
- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Instructional Leadership
- Recruitment & Retention of Effective Teachers
- Beta Club
- Student Council
- Bow Tie and Diamond Mentoring
- Uninterrupted standard based intervention

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Kachina Singletary **at kquick@scsnc.org] or** 910-.384-0679.

Sincerely,

Kachina Singletary, Principal