11/10/2026

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 Bessemer Elementary has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education.

As defined the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1111(c)(4)(D)(i)(III), schools are identified as TSI-AT 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 Bessemer's intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As a TSI-AT (ATSI) school, Bessemer 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 or charter will employ to support our Multilingual Learners improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas:

- Standards-aligned instruction

We have set the following goals for Bessemer this year:
By the end of the 2026–2027 school year, Bessemer Elementary will increase the percentage of Multilingual Learner (ML) students who improve reading growth by providing targeted literacy intervention through Amplify Boost Reading and aligned core instruction.

By June 2027, at least 50% of participating ML students will improve individualized reading growth targets as measured by DIBELS, Amplify Boost Reading progress-monitoring data, classroom assessments, and other district literacy measures.

Here are some strategies that we will be implementing to improve student outcomes

- ML students will access Boost Reading to support phonics and phonemic awareness.
- ML students will be on Amplify Boost 3 to 5 days a week for at least 15 to 20 minutes.

Also, parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways we can work together:

- Daily Reading Practice: Parents will read with their child for 15–20 minutes at least four times per week, in English or their home language, to strengthen vocabulary and comprehension.
- Monitor Academic Progress: Parents will communicate regularly with teachers, review reading assessment results, and support their child's literacy goals and Amplify Boost Reading activities at home.

Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways we can work together:

- Ensure that both you and your student are aware of academic expectations set for your student this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).

- Call Insert school contact person and phone number if you have questions or concerns about your student or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member who will be working with your student.
- Make sure that your student is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your student's homework.
- Monitor the progress your student is making and attend meetings with your student's teacher(s).
- Keep track of our website and social media sites [insert links].
- Volunteer.
- Join the Insert name of Parent Teacher Association.

This may sound like a lot but preparing our students so that they can succeed is not easy and is a group effort. Here are some resources available to help:

- 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 single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about a school's performance 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:

- Implemented targeted reading interventions, including Amplify Boost Reading, to support multilingual learners.
- Strengthened data-driven instruction and progress monitoring to address achievement gaps.
- Increased teacher collaboration through PLCs to improve instructional practices.
- Expanded family engagement opportunities to support student learning and academic success.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Dr. McMillon at mcmillt4@gcsnc.com or 336.375.2585.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tyron McMillon
Principal
Bessemer Elementary