Pactolus Global School

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Dr. Norman McDuffie, Principal **Diana Denham, Assistant Principal**

10/21/26

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I am writing this letter to notify you that Pactolus Global School 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 Pactolus Global School, our achievement score for the ***2025-2026*** school year is based on how well our students performed on: ***Grades 3–8 Mathematics, Grades 3–8 English Language Arts/Reading, Grades 5 and 8 Science, NC Math 1, and additional indicators including English Learner Progress. Pactolus Global School*** received a School Performance Grade of ***D*** and a growth designation of ***Meet Expected Growth*** for the ***2025-2026*** 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, ***Pactolus Global School*** 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 ***Pactolus Global School*** improvement efforts. The comprehensive improvement plan will address the following areas:

- Classroom Management
- Student Support Services
- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Teams (PLTs)
- Instructional Leadership
- Recruitment & Retention of Effective Teachers
- Support for Grade-to-Grade Transitions
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Family and Community Engagement

We have set the following goals for ***Pactolus Global School*** this year:

- ***By June of 2027, Pactolus will meet or exceed EVAAS student proficiency projections.***

- ***By June 2027, Pactolus will decrease the number of loss instructional days due to OSS and ISS days by 5% compared to the 25-26 school year.***
- ***By June 2027, mClass proficient data will increase by <u>10%</u> compared to June 2026 mClass data.***

Here are some strategies that ***Pactolus Global School*** will be implementing to improve student outcomes:

- ***Utilize the DESSA to support student needs***
- ***Hire an Early Literacy Specialist***
- ***Hire Student Success Coaches***
- ***District Specialist visits monthly***
- ***Changed Bell Schedule to allow K-3 & 4-5 Flex Grouping***
- ***Revamp our Positive Behavior Intervention Support***
- ***Analyze discipline data monthly and make adjustments as needed***
- ***Use Capturing Kids' Hearts strategies***
- ***Hire a Reading Remediation Teacher***
- ***Implement Dreambox with fidelity***

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

- Ensure you and your child have a designated time to read for 10-15 minutes daily. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your child's teacher(s).
- Call the school @ 252-752-6941 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 progress and attend meetings with your child's teacher(s).
- Keep track of our website and social media sites: *www.facebook.com/pactolusschool.*
- Volunteer.
- Join the ***<u>Parent Teacher Organization</u>***

Additionally, listed below are a few 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 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:

- **Revamped our PBIS program to promote positive student behaviors.**
- **Hosted two Title 1 sessions that provided parents info about how to support their child's academics.**

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact N. McDuffie **at mcduffn@pitt.k12.nc.us or 252-752-6941**.

Sincerely,

N. McDuffie