11/13/2026

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction has released state accountability information for the 2025-26 school year. This includes results from end-of-grade tests our students take each spring and how much growth our students demonstrated through those scores, as well as other measures of accountability.

By state law, schools are designated with a School Performance Grade, of which 80 percent is based on our school's achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students' academic growth. Based on our 2025-26 accountability results, Bessemer Elementary received a D grade and did meet expected growth. Therefore, we are designated by the state as "low performing." 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 did "not meet expected growth" as defined by state statute G.S. 115C-83.15.

Although we are committed to improving these results, 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. At **Bessemer Elementary School**, we are proud to offer programs and initiatives that support the academic, social, emotional, and leadership development of our students. These include **Leader in Me**, which develops student leadership and personal responsibility; **Operation Xcel** and **Black Child Development Institute (BCDI)** after-school programs, which provide academic enrichment and additional learning opportunities; **Communities In Schools (CIS)**, which connects students and families with essential resources; our **after-school Science Club**, which promotes STEM exploration; and **Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)**, which provides targeted academic and behavioral interventions. Additionally, our school emphasizes literacy development, positive behavior through our **BOBCAT expectations**, career exploration, and meaningful family engagement. These opportunities reflect our commitment to educating the whole child and ensuring every student has the support needed to succeed.

We have developed an improvement plan that specifically addresses how our school will improve its school performance grade and school growth score, as well as how district leaders will support us in these efforts. School improvement plans will be shared with the Board of Education for approval in November and will also be posted on school and district websites.

This year, Guilford County Schools has the lowest number of low-performing schools in a decade, reflecting meaningful progress across the district. We will continue to build on that momentum by focusing our efforts on preparing students for the world through the Guilford Guarantee, our commitment to offer students the chance to earn college credits up to an associate's degree, participate in workplace-learning experiences, or earn industry-recognized credentials before graduation.

We thank you for working with your child to help reinforce the skills he or she is learning in the classroom, for having your child at school on time every day, and for your continued support of our school. If you need assistance accessing your child's academic records through the Campus Parent portal, please reach out to our data manager. Together, we can help our students reach their full potential.

To access our School Improvement Plan online:

1. Please go to http://www.indistar.org
2. Username: GuestS16343 Password: GuestS16343

Sincerely,

Dr. Tyron McMillon
Principal
Bessemer Elementary