



October 26, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in Allen Middle School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Allen Middle School, has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), North Carolina had to identify schools for targeted support and improvement. TSI-AT schools in North Carolina are those that have a subgroup that is under-performing. The intent of this opportunity is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction.

As a TSI-AT school, Allen Middle School is required to develop a comprehensive plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve student achievement. The plan will also include how our district will support us and monitor the progress of our school. The comprehensive 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 Allen Middle School this year:

- Math composite goals from 14.8% to 19.8%
- Math I EOC from 40% to 45%
- Reading Composite goals from 30.7% to 35.7%
- Science Composite goals for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade from 58.6% to 63.6%

Our students need to experience higher achievement levels, but it will require hard work on the part of staff, students and families. Here are some strategies Allen Middle School will be implementing:

- Curriculum based instruction—Open Up for Math and ARC for English Language Arts
- Small group instruction (differentiation in all classes)
- Reciprocal assessments and corrective instruction in all classes
- Targeted time for reading in all classes each day



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

- Make sure 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 *Stephanie Preston or Jennifer Weyant* at (336) 294-7325 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 [https://www.gcsnc.com/allen\\_middle](https://www.gcsnc.com/allen_middle).
- Volunteer.
- Join the *Allen Middle School PTO*

Sounds 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:

- *Allen Middle School*: (336) 294-7389 [www.gcsnc.com/Allen\\_Middle](http://www.gcsnc.com/Allen_Middle)
- Graduation requirements: [www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/)
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: [www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/)
- State student achievement test results: [www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/)
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>

We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student. Already, we have:

- Implemented WIDE reading
- Implemented After School Tutoring

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Dwayne Jordan at [jordand4@gcsnc.com](mailto:jordand4@gcsnc.com) or (336) 294-7325.

Sincerely,

Dwayne Jordan  
Principal

