FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL



10/11/21

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in Kernodle Middle School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Kernodle 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, Kernodle 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 Kernodle Middle School this year:

- DISCIPLINE: By June of 2022 KMS will decrease the number of OSS incidents from 75 incidents during the 2020-2021 school year to 70 incidents during the 2021-2022 school year as measured by the school discipline report, due to being remote from March of 2019 and returned in March of 2021.
- SCHOOL PERFORMANCE COMPOSITE: By June 2022, the school increase its overall performance composite from 80.1% (2018-2019) to a minimum of 64.1% in 2020-2021 due to no testing during the 2019-2020 school year and being remote because of the pandemic.
- ACHIEVEMENT GAP: By June 2022 KMS will decrease the achievement gap between African American and White students by 2 percentage points as measured by the NC End-of-Grade Tests, due to being remote due to the pandemic.
- Reduce Lost Instructional Days: By June of 2022 KMS will reduce the number of lost instructional days due to In and Out of School Suspensions by 5%.
- SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: By June 2023 KMS will decrease the chronic absenteeism by 2%

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 Kernodle Middle School will be implementing:

· A Daily Enrichment period

• Early college Tutoring for Math; grades 6th - 8th

Individual Student Extra Help Sessions with Teachers; grades 6th – 8th

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 Your child's counselor at 336-545-3717 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

Volunteer.

Join the Kernodle Middle School PTA

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:

Mrs. Cecelia-Quick Pettis, Kernodle Middle School Social Worker: 336-545-3717

• 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://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact the school at 336-545-3717.

Sincerely,

Thea McHam, Principal

Thea MC Ham