

FROM  
THE OFFICE  
OF THE  
PRINCIPAL

Deena A. Hayes | Chairperson, Board of Education  
Sharon L. Contreras, Ph.D. | Superintendent



October 20, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian:

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

- By June 2022, Jamestown Elementary will increase our school performance composite goal from 48.1 to 52.9% on end of grade tests.
- By June 2022, Jamestown Elementary will close the achievement gap between African Americans students by 10 percent on end of grade tests.
- By June 2022, Jamestown Elementary will create a climate and culture more conducive to student needs and reduce the number of discipline referrals by 20%.
- By June 2022, 100% of classroom teachers will engage in data driven dialogue and participate in a shared book study to increase cultural awareness and build teacher capacity.
- Jamestown Elementary School will decrease the chronic absenteeism rate by 5 percentage points by June 2022.

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 Jamestown Elementary will be implementing:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Literacy Tutor to increase oral and written comprehension for students to be successful transitioning from learning to read and read to learn by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> grade math and literacy tutoring

- 
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading and math coach to support reading intervention and K-2 reading and math curriculum
  - Intervention /Enrichment programs: CKLA materials, Eureka materials, professional development, RazKids, Study Island
  - Library Books
  - K-5 supplies and materials aligned with reading, math, and science resources
  - Parental Involvement activities

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 our office at (336) 819-2110 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/jamestown\\_elementary](https://www.gcsnc.com/jamestown_elementary)
- Volunteer.
- Join the Jamestown Elementary 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:

- Holli Sills, Counselor: Counseling, Student Support, Community Resources, [sillshh@gcsnc.com](mailto:sillshh@gcsnc.com)
- Beverly Lee, Curriculum Facilitator, Curriculum Resources/Support, [leeb@gcsnc.com](mailto:leeb@gcsnc.com)
- Haileigh Autry, Social Worker: Student and Family Resource Support, [autryh@gcsnc.com](mailto:autryh@gcsnc.com)
- 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:

- School Achievement Grade of B
- Exceed Growth for four consecutive years

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Dr. Christa DiBonaventura at [dibonac@gcsnc.com](mailto:dibonac@gcsnc.com) or (336) 819-2110.

Sincerely,

Dr. Christa DiBonaventura  
Principal

