



October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dear WGMS Parent/Guardian:

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

*Performance Composite Goal-By June 2022, WGMS will increase the overall Performance Composite from at least 36.3% to 40% or greater.*

*Discipline Goal- By June 2022, to reduce discipline referrals for African-American Male Students from 41% of all referrals and 46% of all OSS to 30% or less of all referrals and 30% or less of all OSS based on EOY Discipline reports.*

*By June 2022, to reduce the literacy achievement gap between W/AA students(51.1%-32.7%=18.4%) and W/H (51.1\_-37.8\_=13.3%) students in reading by a minimum of 5 percentage points (W/AA- from 18.4% to 13.4%), (W/H- from 13.3%-8.3%) based on 2022 EOG Reading Tests.*

*By June 2022, a minimum of 50% of WGMS students will meet their Wildly Important Goals by earning "Level Up" Status as measured by no D's or F's, no discipline referrals, no more than 2 unexcused absences, thus improving WGMS culture and climate.*

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 Western Middle School will be implementing:

- Implementation of Opportunity Culture and Restart Model to support providing strong instruction in every classroom.
- Continuation of Leader in Me Schoolwide reform model (ex. Daily LEAD block, Goal Setting, etc.)
- Continued implementation of Positive Behavior Intervention and Support
- Continued Implementation of Open Up/Illustrative Math Process to support the GCS Math Model
- Continued implementation of American Reading Company Process to support the GCS Language Arts Curriculum

712 N. Eugene Street | Greensboro, NC 27401 | P 336.370.8100

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 *Mrs. Sims (6<sup>th</sup> grade counselor)*, *Mr. Flowers (7<sup>th</sup> grade counselor)* or *Ms. Murray (8<sup>th</sup> counselor)* 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 *[insert links]*.
- Volunteer.
- Join the *Western Guilford Middle School Parent Teacher Student Association*

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:

- 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:

- Mr. Chase Arrington is Guilford County Schools Assistant Principal of the Year!
- Mrs. Melissa Mann is Guilford County Schools Middle School Teacher of the Year!
- The Morning Show is up and running as led by the Student Lighthouse Team.
- Our Boys Soccer Team were are Conference Champions!

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact me at [brownp9@gcsnc.com](mailto:brownp9@gcsnc.com) or (336)316-5833.

Sincerely,

*Patrice W. Brown*

Patrice W. Brown  
Principal  
*Western Guilford Middle School*