

Legette Blythe Elementary School

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November 26, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in Blythe Elementary, I am writing this letter to let you know that Blythe Elementary, has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. ESSA Section 1111(d)(2) stated that 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 underperforming (Blythe – Students with Disabilities). This opportunity intends to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction.

As a TSI-AT school, Blythe 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 our school's progress. 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 Blythe Elementary this year:

- **By June 2025, Kindergarten through 2nd-grade students scoring at or above the benchmark in early literacy as measured by DIBELS will increase from 75.3% in SY2023-24 to 80.4% in SY2024-25.**
- **By June of 2025, students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on reading End of Grade assessments in grades 3 - 5 will increase from 29.2% in SY2023-24 to 37.2% in SY2024-25.**
- ***By June 2025 African American students scoring Grade Level Proficient (GLP), on Math End of Grade assessments in grades 3-5 will increase from 56.1% in SY 2023-24 to 61.1% in SY 2024-25.***
- ***By June 2025 students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on Science End of Grade assessments in grade 5 will increase from 40% in SY2023-24 to 50% in SY2024-25.***
- ***By June 2025, Students with Disabilities (SWD) subgroup's performance grade will increase by a 5% point increase as measured by our performance composite score.***
- **By June 2025, we will decrease Chronic Absenteeism from 14.9% to 10 % for the 24–25 school year.**

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 Blythe Elementary will be implementing:

- *All teachers will receive coaching and feedback (1:1 and or clinics)*
- *Continued Implementation and enhancement of the EL Literacy Curriculum grades K - 5*
- *Implementation of new Illustrative Math Curriculum*
- *Increased rigor in the curriculum and materials being used across all subject areas*
- *Continued Implementation of the Caring Schools Curriculum to address students Social Emotional Learning (SEL) needs*

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 Claudia Medina – Social Worker 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 on time 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.cmsk12.org/blytheES>
- Volunteer
- Join **Blythe Elementary Parent Teacher Association @ blythepta.com and join us on our Social Media at www.facebook.com/BlytheElementary**

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/
- 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>

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

- Parent Events: Open House, Curriculum Nights, Parent/Teacher Conferences, IB Open House Events, 2024 – 2025 Fall Fundraiser
- Community Involvement: Operation Stocking Claus partnered with Watchman of the Streets to support homeless individual/families, partnered with St. Marks Church to provide holiday support for Blythe families, Coats for Kids - Blythe Elementary National Honor Society members
- Teachers and staff have collaborated to develop a strategic system for students in need of academic and/or behavior support (MTSS).
- Blythe continues to be recognized as a Certified National Magnet School 8-31-23 thru 8-31-25

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Karen Barber – **Dean of Students at Karen.barber@cms.k12.nc.us or 980 343-5770.**

Sincerely,



Felisa A. Simpson
Principal