

## Rocky River High School

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Mint Hill, NC 28227

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November 14, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year is off to a successful start for you and your child. I am writing this letter to let you know that Rocky River High School has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. Per ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), schools are identified as TSI-AT schools in North Carolina because one or more of the following subgroups received a subgroup performance grade score at or below the highest identified CSI-LP school's All Students group during the identification year; and is on the TSI-CU list for the subgroup(s) for the previous year. Subgroup performance scores are provided for the following subgroups: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners. This letter is to notify our parents and guardians of Rocky River High School's intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As a TSI-AT school, Rocky River High School is required to develop an Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve outcomes for underperforming subgroups. The plan will also include strategies that our district or charter will employ to support Rocky River High School's improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas:

- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Recruitment & Retention of Effective Teachers
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Student Support Services
- Family and Community Engagement

### **We have set the following goals and strategies for Rocky River High School this year:**

- The principal will develop a walkthrough calendar with strategic look-fors to assess the current state of curriculum implementation, SEL instruction, and tiered interventions. (Goal 3 and 4 and FAM-S 3)
- The Principal will meet with the instructional support team weekly to progress monitor instructional coaching cycles.

- RRHS will establish a MTSS team that meets once a month to identify Tier 2 and Tier 3 students and plan interventions and support accordingly. Within the 24-25 school year, our school will implement the following evidenced-based intervention: Implementation of the Capturing Kids Heart program to support the SEL of all students.
- The administrative team will develop and execute a school-wide data analysis protocol for PLCs to analyze and review attendance, behavior, and common assessment data at least once a week. Establish high-quality school-wide bell-to-bell instructional practices that focus on academic monitoring of formative data and in-the-moment feedback to students.
- RRHS will implement an In-School Credit Recovery Lab and After-School Credit Recovery program to provide students extended opportunities to recover missed credits and staff additional opportunities for monitoring and support. The GSI team is focused on the graduating cohort, the meetings focus on what seniors are on track to graduate and what seniors (or off-track students in the same cohort) need support, credit recovery, etc. Counselors will also monitor underclassmen to identify who is on track or off-track
- Throughout each semester, RRHS will provide support sessions to families targeting student success in EOC and advanced coursework to improve student proficiency by 10% on the second benchmark in part, through the use of their Title I Funds. RRHS will develop a Family Engagement Committee that will lead the school staff to successfully implement quarterly family events for families to connect with individual teachers about student academic performance as it relates to grades and EOC growth in an effort to build partnerships with families toward achieving academic growth goals.
- PLC teams will meet at least twice a week to: a) discuss and develop rigorous standards-aligned assessments and instructional tasks and b) analyze student data and develop action steps that drive instructional practices and re-teaching/re-looping instruction. (CMS Goals 3, 4) School-based IST will facilitate continuous PD on the following focus areas: academic monitoring, purposeful planning, and academic conversation (6 PD sessions throughout the school year). (CMS Goals 3, 4)
- Actively recruit and support candidates in alternative certification programs (i.e., Teach for America, Regional Alternative Licensing Center, and Lateral Entry). (Guardrail 4) Teachers will be identified to lead clubs, mentor groups, coach teams, and spearhead initiatives to enhance and develop teacher leadership skills. (Guardrail 4)
- Staff will participate in intensive instructional coaching on a weekly basis, and professional development sessions one Wednesday per month led by various instructional leaders and tailored for improving instructional practices, content-specific needs, and data-driven instructional decisions. (CMS Goal 3 & 4) The IST will engage in weekly Data Analysis Meetings with Math I PLC teachers, Math 3 PLC teachers, English 2 PLC teachers & Biology PLC teachers to: a) discuss and assess effectiveness of PLC

practices and b) progress monitor the development and implementation of standards-aligned units of instruction. (CMS Goals 3 & 4)

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

- Ensure that both you and your child know the academic expectations set for your child this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).
- Call 980-344-0409 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 child.
- Make sure that your child is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your child's homework.
- Monitor the progress your child is making and attend meetings with your child's teacher(s).
- Keep track of our website and social media sites  
<https://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/rockyriverHS/Pages/Default.aspx>.
- Volunteer.
- Join the Rocky River High School PTSA.

Additionally, listed below are a few 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 are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about a school's performance or the opportunities that our school provides. The intent of receiving these designations is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction. We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your child. Already, we have:

- **Distinguished CTE Academy**
- **Distinguished JROTC Program**
- **Advanced Placement Course & EOS Program**
- **CPCC On-Site Courses**

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Monica High, Assistant Principal**, at [monica1.high@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:monica1.high@cms.k12.nc.us) or **980-344-0409**.

Sincerely,

David Legrand, Principal