

Garinger High School

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November 17, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As a parent/guardian of a student in Garinger High School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Garinger High School, has been designated as a Comprehensive Support & Improvement Low-Graduation Rate (CSI-LG) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111(c)(4)(D)(i), North Carolina had to identify schools for comprehensive support and improvement. CSI-LG schools in North Carolina are high schools that have a 4-year cohort graduation rate of less than 66.7%. 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 CSI-LG school, Garinger High 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
- Standard-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 *Garinger High School* this year:

- We will increase our graduation rate from 57% to > 66.7% in 2023-2024.
- The percent of graduates earning a state high school endorsement will increase from 8.2% SY2021-22 to 41.7% in SY2022-23 and 75% in SY2023-24.
- The percent of Garinger high school students who score at the College and Career (CCR) level --a 4 or 5-- as reported as the EOC school composite will increase from <7.5% in SY2021-22 to 15% by the end of the SY2023-24.

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 Garinger High School will be implementing

- Graduation Coaches will meet monthly with students in credit recovery courses.
- Graduation meetings and Senior check-ins with counselors

- Graduation Team, which is made up of MTSS supports, counselors, administrators, deans, community partners, has met monthly to track the cohort graduation progress of seniors. We are tracking towards a 70% graduation rate. Official graduation rate will be determined in August.
- Utilize specific portions of the Enrichment block to focus on an increase in ACT readiness by focusing on test-taking strategies, ML support, career readiness, and college exploration processes.

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 *John Lester* at (980) 343-6450 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 <https://www.cmsk12.org/site/default.aspx?DomainID=186>.
- Volunteer.
- Join the Garinger Parent Teacher Association or Organization-Contact Dr. Nixon by email fynisst.nixon@cms.k12.nc.us

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:

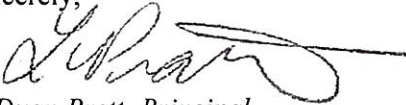
- Graduation requirements: www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/
- State student achievement test results: www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/data-reports/school-report-cards>

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

- Increased our Community Partnerships to include Truist Banking, Plaza Neighborhood Association, NODA Neighborhood Association, and numerous Garinger Alumni groups.
- Increased our numbers in Advanced Placement classes
- Added AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) to grades 9 and 10
- Continue to improve student attendance

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact John Lester at john.lester@cms.k12.nc.us or (980) 343-6450.

Sincerely,



LeDuan Pratt, Principal