

South Mecklenburg High School

8900 Park Road
Charlotte, NC 28210
980.343.3600

November 19, 2024

Dear South Meck HS,

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 **South Meck** 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 **South Meck's** intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As a TSI-AT (ATSI) school, **South Meck** 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 will employ to support **South Meck's** improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas Standards-aligned Instruction

- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Student Support Services

SMHS Smart Goals & Strategies:

1. The percent of students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on Math 1 assessments will increase from 6.2% in SY2023-24 to 16.5% in SY2024-25.
 - a. Administrative team will meet with PLCs weekly to ensure standards aligned instructional practices, data analysis, monitoring student attendance, to create action plans allowing for improved student performance
 - b. Administrative Team & Department Chairs will revise and utilize a calibrated walkthrough document to guide monthly walkthroughs of all teachers to identify coaching needs and for ensuring standards aligned instruction
 - c. The principal will have all teachers turn in and monitor recurring lesson plans in one place (Google Drive, submitted through a Canvas assignment), housed in a shared folder for admin to access when conducting walkthroughs and observations
 - d. The principal will monitor walkthrough and instructional data to create coaching plans and feedback to drive instructional growth and work towards SIP goals.
2. The percent of rising 12th grade students on track to graduate from high school enrolled, enlisted or employed will increase from 77.4% in SY2023-24 (June) to 95% in SY2024-25.
 - a. The principal will review MTSS data to build second semester schedule adjustments and interventions for putting students back on track both with academics and attendance. Student Services will support.
 - b. Student Services will review monthly D/F reports, absenteeism reports, and GSI reports showing which courses have the highest amount of failures to create academic supports and interventions for PLCs to implement
 - c. Student Services PLC will meet weekly to analyze Navigator attendance reports and identify at risk students to address chronic absenteeism.
 - d. Student Services will adjust registration cards as well as meet with students during registration time to support students continuing along Endorsement pathways as they register
 - e. MTSS Team will meet monthly to review assessment data and attendance data to devise structured supports for targeted groups of students
3. The percent of ML students scoring Grade Level Proficient (GLP) on English II End of Course (EOC) assessment will increase from 11.5% in SY 2023-24 to 15.5% in SY 2024-25.
 - a. The principal will have all teachers turn in and monitor recurring lesson plans in one place (Google Drive, submitted through a Canvas assignment), housed in a shared folder for admin to access when conducting walkthroughs and observations
 - b. The principal will monitor walkthrough and instructional data to create coaching plans and feedback to drive instructional growth and work towards SIP goals.

- c. Homeroom teachers will facilitate a monthly session that will focus on ACT prep to raise the school's composite ACT score.
- d. Student Services will intentionally pair AP World History with AVID 9 to strengthen writing skills for 9th graders.
- 4. The percent of OSS incidents for Black students will decrease by 5% by the end of the 24-25 school year.
 - a. BMTs & Dean of Students will monitor and address schoolwide behavioral trends to positively affect disproportionality of black students and to raise cultural norms
 - b. Discipline Team will create and utilize a schoolwide discipline matrix and recalibrate it at the beginning of second semester to align schoolwide behavioral expectations
- 5. 100% of classroom teachers will implement Capturing Kids Hearts with fidelity.
 - a. The principal will leverage administrators and teacher leaders to work closely with beginning teachers, mentors, and department chairs to develop retention strategies for teachers.
 - b. Administrators and department chairs will conduct monthly walkthroughs with CKH look-fors within to assess data and see where to improve.
- 6. The school will retain 90% of licensed classroom teachers throughout the 2024-25.
 - a. The principal will leverage administrators and teacher leaders to work closely with beginning teachers, mentors, and department chairs to develop retention strategies for teachers.
 - b. The principal will monitor walkthrough and instructional data to create coaching plans and feedback to drive instructional growth and work towards SIP goals.

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 **South Meck** 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
- Join the South Meck HS PTSA

Additionally, listed below are a few 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 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:

Quick Wins

1. Q1 daily student average attendance ~95%
2. Q1 daily teacher average attendance ~93%
3. Use of instructional walkthrough form integrated and understood by all stakeholders
4. 100% BTSP compliance (only high school in district)
5. National Magnet School of Excellence 2 years in a row
6. Building X on time to move into to begin teaching for 2nd semester
7. New Technology facilitator is already integrating technology instructional practices that support school

If you have questions about the content of this letter.

Sincerely,

M. King