

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Academy

5833 Milhaven Lane
Charlotte, NC, 28216

980.343.0680

November 30th, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As a parent/guardian of a student in Charlotte Mecklenburg Academy, I am writing this letter to let you know that Charlotte Mecklenburg Academy, 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, Charlotte Mecklenburg Academy 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 Charlotte Mecklenburg Academy this year:

- Increase the percent of 8th grade students who score at the College and Career Ready (CCR) level--a 4 or 5-- on the Grade 8 Mathematics EOG from 0% in 2021-2022 to 28% in the 2023-2024 school year.
- Increase the percent of high school students who score at the College and Career (CCR) level--a 4 or 5-- on the Math 1 EOC (grades 9-12) from 0% in 2021-2022 to 25% in the 2023-2024 school year.
- We will exceed expected Educator Value Added Assessment System (EVAAS) growth for our overall school index in 2022-2023 school year and the 2023-2024 school year.
- Increase the percent of students reporting a positive self-perception of their self-management (self-regulation) from 44% (Fall 2021 Panorama Screener) to 80% in the 2023-2024 school year.
- Increase the percent of students reporting a positive self-perception of their self-management (self-regulation) from 44% (Fall 2021 Panorama Screener) to 80% in the 2023-2024 school year.
- Maintain the proportionality of our Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) data for Black students at 12.2% in the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years.
- Increase the percent of graduates earning a state high school endorsement from 0% in the 2021-2022

- school year to 75% in the 2023-2024 school year.
- We will increase our graduation rate from 11.4% to >66.7% in 2023-2024.

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 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Academy will be implementing:

- Every CMA student will have the opportunity to participate in an off campus field trip.
- ILT will develop and execute a professional development session (Funded with Title 1) for all CMA staff to engage in learning and implementing high leverage practices (Goal 1 and 2, FAM-S29)
- Teachers will use mastery connect data to develop test prep sessions individualized for each student based on yearly progress to revisit academic gaps (Goal 1 and Goal 2).

Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways you can help:

- 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 Ms. Patterson (K-6) or Ms. Jones (7-12) at (980)343-0680 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 <https://www.cmsk12.org/charmeckEC>
- Volunteer.
- Join the School Improvement Team

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:

- Opened new sensory equipment outside to expand the success of our indoor sensory lab.
- Launched BeAble 6-12 grade students and NOW! tutoring for K-8 students.
- Continued our partnership with Bloom Literacy to provide intensive targeted reading support.
- Decreased chronic absenteeism by 3%

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Ms. Thompson (K-6) or Ms. Melton (7-12) at (980) 343-0680.

Sincerely,

Katherine Waters

