

## Wilson STEM Academy

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in **Wilson STEM Academy**, I am writing this letter to let you know that **Wilson STEM Academy** has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement-Consistently Underperforming (TSI-CU) 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-CU schools in North Carolina have student subgroup(s) that are consistently underperforming.

This opportunity intends to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction.

As a TSI-CU school, **Wilson STEM 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 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 **Wilson STEM Academy** this year:

- Provide effective and rigorous instruction, academic interventions, and enrichment daily to support the academic and developmental needs of all scholars. By June 2025, at least 80% of scholars will meet their predicted EVAAS growth as measured by NC EOG Assessment and we will increase GLP and CCR in all tested areas by 15%. From the previous school year.
- Create a safe and positive learning environment for all scholars that focuses on social emotional learning in effort to create a sense of belonging within our school. As a result, we will decrease suspensions by 10% and decrease chronic absenteeism by 10% from the previous school year.
- 100% of staff feel supported as we strive to reach these goals.

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 **Wilson STEM Academy** will be implementing:

- In content PLCs, we will analyze student work and data from Benchmark Assessments, i-Ready assessments, common assessments, and informal data to assess mastery of content so that teachers can remediate and enrich student learning in order to ensure

their continued growth.

- We have fully established and implemented the Wilson Way Expectations Matrix - our core/universal behavioral intervention
- We have fully established and implemented our daily ConnectionCircles - a universal program for strengthening the social/emotional capacity of our scholars as well as reinforcing our Wilson Way Expectations Matrix and core values.
- Implementation of Capturing Kids Heart to support with meeting the social emotional needs of scholars.
- Utilization of the PACE toolkit to increase the overall performance of ELL/ML/EC students.

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 ***Crystal Davis, Assistant Principal***, 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/wilsonstemMS>.
- Volunteer.
- Join the ***Parent Engagement and Involvement 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/](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're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student. Already, we have:

- Reviewed our Beginning of the Year Assessment data and our scholars surpassed EVAAS projections for grade level proficiency in all tested areas
- Implemented i-Ready schoolwide as an intervention tool during homeroom daily.
- Created learning labs to support our EC (Exceptional Children) and ML (Multilingual) scholars.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Patrice McCauley at [patricem.mccauley@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:patricem.mccauley@cms.k12.nc.us) via phone at 980-343-6070.**

Sincerely,

***Patrice McCauley***

