

11/25/2024

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-Performing (CSI-LP) 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-LP schools in North Carolina are those found in the lowest-performing 5 percent of all schools receiving Title I funding. The intent of this opportunity is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction.

In addition, **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 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:

- 100% of classroom teachers will implement Capturing Kids Hearts with fidelity. (Guardrail 3)
- The percent of OSS/ISS incidents will decrease by 10% from 186 incidents of OSS in SY 2023-24 to 167 incidents of OSS in SY 2024-25 (Guardrail 2)
- The percent of rising 12th grade students on track to graduate from high school completing a CTE (Career & Technical Education) pathway will increase from 0% to 25% (Goal 4)
- The percent of students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on Math 1 assessments will increase from 0% in SY2023-24 to 10% in SY2024-25. (Goal 3)
- The percentage of students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on reading End of Grade assessments in grades 3-8 will increase from 2.8 % in SY2023-24 to % 9.4in SY2024-25. (Goal 2)
- The percent of students scoring Grade Level Proficient (GLP), on math End of Grade assessments in grades 3-8 will increase from 0% in SY 2023-24 to 25% in SY 2024-25 (Guardrail 1)
- The percent of Kindergarten through 2nd grade students scoring at or above benchmark in early literacy as measured by DIBELS will increase from 33% in SY2023-24 to 50% in SY2024-25. (Goal 1)
- The school will retain 90% of licensed classroom teachers throughout the 2024-25. (Guardrail 4)

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:

- ***Use this link (www.bit.ly/4i3isnG) to access a list of our school improvement priorities and strategies. Note this is a live document used by our school improvement team throughout the year.***
- ***If you would like to learn more about any of these strategies, we invite you to join our school improvement team or join us for our virtual parent updates (posted on parent square)***

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

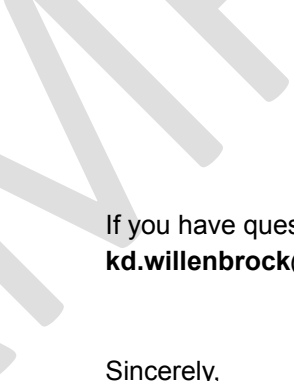
- Make sure that both you and your student are aware of academic expectations set for your student this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).
- Call your child's teacher at 980-343.0680 or message your child's teacher via email or through parent square 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 Leadership 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:

- CMS Technology and Learning Resources: <https://www.cmsk12.org/students>
- 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:

- **Improvements in student benchmark scores as the result of both our partnership with University Instructors and the changes to our master schedule.**
- **Student attendance is improving and in the first quarter we saw a 50% decrease in our out of school suspensions compared to quarter one last year!**



If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Katherine Waters** at **kd.willenbrock@cms.k12.nc.us** or **980-343-0680**.

Sincerely,

Katherine Waters