

Charlotte, NC 28269
Courier # 518
P: 980-344-3410
F: 980-343-1835

Ridge Road Middle School



Daniel Gray
Principal
Kimberli Darling
Assistant Principal
Dellicia Carthens
Assistant Principal
Brett Cerrato
Dean of Students

November 18, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in **Ridge Road Middle School**, I am writing this letter to let you know that **Ridge Road Middle School** has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) 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-AT schools in North Carolina are those that have a subgroup that is 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-AT school, **Ridge Road Middle 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 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 **Ridge Road Middle School** this year:

- 100% of teachers at Ridge Road Middle School will use data to drive the implementation of standards based aligned instruction.
- 100% of PLCs at Ridge Road Middle School will implement the school-wide PLC protocol.
- 80% of students will exceed projected growth in English, Math, and Science as measured by MVPA, iReady or other formal assessment measure.

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 **Smart Goals** will be implementing:

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- Teachers will unpack standards after administration of diagnostics before each unit to support planning.
- Teachers will administer routine common checks for understanding among content area PLCs.
- Data will be used to determine what differentiated tasks will align to the standard.
- District Recommended Data protocol will be used to analyze data and determine next steps for instruction.
- Teachers and Instructional Support Staff will follow the school based PLC protocol.
- Teachers and Instructional Support Staff will collaborate to plan lessons based on data.
- Lessons will be modeled within the PLCs to elicit feedback for improvement
- Incorporate daily informal assessments to determine student progress
- Lessons aligned with NCSCOS standards
- Implement the DDI process to collect and analyze student data
- Plan for re-teaching, small group and individualized instruction for students based on data

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 ***Helen Baeza at 980-344-3410*** 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://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/ridgeroadMS/Pages/Default.aspx>
- Volunteer.
- Join the ***Ridge Road PTSA - Direct contact Ms. Laurin Carter***

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:

- ***RidgeRoadMiddleSchool Counselors (Mrs. Franklin and Mrs. King-6th grade, Mrs. King and Mrs. Barrett 7th grade, Mrs. Barrett Only for 8th grade,***
- 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're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student. Already, we have:

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- Continued to reduce the number of student incidents
- Increased school/community communication
- Shown improved results in MVPA testing in comparison to last year's results
- Introduced Capturing Kids Hearts as a means to help students become more successful in all phases of their education
- Provided targeted professional development to staff to ensure they are focused and prepared to provide high quality instruction.
- Increased student participation in honors classes.
- Engaged students in a more well-rounded student experience at Ridge Road.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Principal Gray at daniel.gray@cms.k12.nc.us or 980-344-3410

Sincerely,

Daniel Gray

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