

North Mecklenburg High School

November 25, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in North Mecklenburg High School, I am writing this letter to let you know that North Mecklenburg High School, 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, North Mecklenburg High 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 North Mecklenburg High School this year:

- Bullying Prevention: Provide a positive school climate, under CMS regulation JICK-R, by promoting a safe learning environment free of bullying and harassing behaviors.
- The percent of rising 12th grade students on track to graduate from high school enrolled, enlisted or employed will increase from 85.7% in SY2023-24 to 90% in SY2024-25.
- The percent of OSS/ISS incidents will decrease from 48.3% in SY 2023-24 to 40% in SY 2024-25.
- 100% of classroom teachers will implement Capturing Kids Hearts with fidelity.
- The school will retain 97% of licensed classroom teachers throughout the 2024-25.
- The percent of all students scoring Grade Level Proficient (GLP), on English II End of Course assessment will increase from 55.7% in SY 2023-24 to 61% in SY 2024-25 and College and Career Readiness (CCR) will increase from 31.3% in SY 2023-24 to 35% in SY 2024-25.

- The percent of students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on Math 1 assessments will increase from 9.6% in SY2023-24 to 16.3% in SY2024-25 to 21.3%SY2025-26.
- The percent of all students scoring Grade Level Proficient (GLP), on Biology End of Course assessment will increase from 43.2% in SY 2023-24 to 47% in SY 2024-25 and College and Career Readiness (CCR) will increase from 36.1% in SY 2023-24 to 40% in SY 2024-25.
- The percent of all students scoring Grade Level Proficient (GLP), on Math III End of Course assessment will increase from 53.4% in SY 2023-24 to 58% in SY 2024-25 and College and Career Readiness (CCR) will increase from 26.5% in SY 2023-24 to 30% in SY 2024-25.
- The percent of students in the Hispanic subgroup scoring Grade Level Proficiency on Math 1 assessments will increase from 40% in SY2023-24 to 44% in SY2024-25 and College and Career Ready (CCR) will increase from 20.2% in SY2023-24 to 22% in SY2024-25.

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 North Mecklenburg High School will be implementing:

- Department Chairs and PLC Leads serve as the MTSS Academic Team that will establish a clear teaming structure with assigned roles, responsibilities, and a consistent meeting schedule and agenda to discuss school, grade level, teacher, and student specific intervention and progress monitoring data for tiered intervention plans.
- 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 support and interventions for PLCs.
- Instructional teams will collaborate with department administrators and/or instructional support staff to analyze data after each benchmark window or common assessment to provide differentiated instruction to meet the needs of all students.
- The administrative team will develop and execute a school-wide data analysis protocol for PLCs to analyze and review attendance, behavior, and common assessment data at least 3 times per quarter.
- Grade-level GSI will be conducted bi- monthly to monitor students at risk of failing two or more classes. Those that are failing will have case managers assigned to them to monitor their progress. Those that are on the list that have attendance issues will be managed by SSPLA, Administration and Counselors.
- The percent of students enrolled in AP courses will increase through counselor-led student informational sessions, student interest feedback forms, and the addition of additional AP courses based on student Implement effective transition strategies (e.g. Transition Meetings, counselor feedback, etc.) to promote scholar success to the next grade level.
- Teachers with students with IEP/504/ML plans will be notified on a need basis annually.
- Opportunities for rising 9th grade students will be offered to students during the summer to prepare them for Foundational Math/Math I.
- Teachers will implement daily Social Emotional Learning time using elements from the Capturing Kids' Hearts program as our Schoolwide Core Social-Emotional Practice to support the SEL needs of students.
- Staff will develop and train peer groups through the Sources of Strength program to assist in addressing the unique challenges of the student experience.
- The principal and teachers will use ParentSquare for consistent communication between school and home to engage parents in ways that directly relate to their children's academic progress.
- NMHS will hold three Events with support/resources for our Multilingual Families to ensure

- access for all families in leveraging our existing tools for student academic support. One of the events will be Curriculum Night.
- NMHS will lead school staff to successfully implement quarterly family events for families
 to connect with individual teachers about student academic performance as it relates to grades
 and MAP growth in an effort to build partnerships with families toward achieving academic
 growth goals.

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 our Main Office at 980-343-3840 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/northmecklenburghs.
- Volunteer.
- Join the *NMHS PTSA*. nmhsptsa@gmail.com

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:

- North Mecklenburg High School Guidance Department: 980-343-3840
- Graduation requirements: <u>www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/</u>
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: <u>www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/</u>
- 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:

- School has had high growth for 2 years, having the highest growth since 2019.
- North Mecklenburg is the only school in CMS with 3 magnet programs in a comprehensive/traditional high school.
- Math 3 PLC was praised by the district for their implementation of CMS' new curriculum.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact the school at 980-343-3840.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephanie Hood