

**Candler Elementary School, 121 Candler School Road, Candler
NC**

8/25/20

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a Candler Elementary student, I am writing this letter to let you know that Candler Elementary School has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), 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 under-performing. 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 TSI-AT school, Candler 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
- 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 Candler this year:

- Increase the capacity of our learners that are not on grade level in Reading and Math, and for those children that have identified special circumstances.

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 Candler will be implementing:

- Reading Research to Classroom Practice
- Math Foundations
- Co-teaching Training
- Focus on Learning Targets and the NCSCS

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 Candler Elementary 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, whether it be virtual or face-to-face.
- Monitor your student's classwork, homework and participation in virtual learning.
- 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 like Facebook.

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://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>

We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Hipps, Principal
Candler Elementary School