November 15th 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year is off to a successful start for you and your child. I am writing this letter to let you know that Penn Griffin School for the Arts has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. Per ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), schools are identified as TSI-AT schools in North Carolina because one or more of the following subgroups received a subgroup performance grade score at or below the highest identified CSI-LP school’s All Students group during the identification year; and is on the TSI-CU list for the subgroup(s) for the previous year. Subgroup performance scores are provided for the following subgroups: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners. This letter is to notify our parents and guardians of Penn-Griffin’s intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As a TSI-AT (ATSI) school, Penn-Griffin is required to develop an Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve outcomes for underperforming subgroups. The plan will also include strategies that our district or charter will employ to support Penn-Griffin’s improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas:

* Standards-aligned Instruction
* Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
* 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 ***Penn-Griffin*** this year:

* By June 30th, 2025, Penn-Griffin will increase overall high school Math 1 proficiency by at least 3 percentage points from 60.0 in 2023-24 to 63.0 in 2024-25.
* By June 30, 2025, Penn Griffin will reduce the number of lost instructional days resulting from discipline referrals by 10% from 350 days in 2023-24 to 315 in 2024-25.
* By June 30, 2025, Penn-Griffin's will increase its overall Performance Composite by at least 3 percentage points from 43.9% in 2023-24 to 46.9% in 2024-25.
* By June 30, 2025, Penn-Griffin will decrease chronic student absences by 5 percentage points from 22.8% in 2023-24 to 17.8% in 2024-25.
* By June 30th, 2025, Penn-Griffin will increase overall 8th grade math proficiency by at least 5 percentage points from 18.6% to 23.6% in 2024-25.

Here are some strategies that we will be implementing to improve student outcomes:

* All teachers will employ effective classroom management.
* We will monitor curriculum and classroom instruction regularly.
* Our staff will use performance data to make decisions about school improvement and professional development needs.

Also, parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways we can work together:

* Ensure that both you and your child know the academic expectations set for your child this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student’s teacher(s).
* Call Ms. Hood at 336-819-2870 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 child.
* Make sure that your child is prepared and attends school each day.
* Monitor your child’s homework.
* Monitor the progress your child is making and attend meetings with your child’s teacher(s).
* Keep track of our website and Facebook page: Penn-Griffin Hawks.
* Volunteer.
* Join the Insert name of Parent Teacher Association.

Additionally, listed below are a few resources available to help:

* Graduation requirements: [www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/](file:///C:\Users\stimpsh\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\NOELOQFS\www.ncpublicschools.org\gradrequirements\)
* K-12 standards in academic subjects: [www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/](file:///C:\Users\stimpsh\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\NOELOQFS\www.ncpublicschools.org\curriculum\)
* State student achievement test results: [www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/](file:///C:\Users\stimpsh\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\NOELOQFS\www.ncpublicschools.org\accountability\)
* N.C. School Report Cards: <https://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>

We are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about a school's performance or the opportunities that our school provides. The intent of receiving these designations is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction. We’re excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your child. Already, we have:

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact me at [stimpsh@gcsnc.com](mailto:stimpsh@gcsnc.com) or 336-819-2870.

Sincerely,

A black text on a white background

Description automatically generated

Howard Stimpson