



February 4, 2022

**Dear Parent/Guardian:**

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

- June 2022, Western Guilford High School will increase its overall performance composite from 38.6% to a minimum of 43.6%. (A1.07; A2.05; A2.07; A4.01)
- By June 2022, Western Guilford High School will decrease the achievement gap between white and black students in the following areas: Math I, Math III, Biology, and English II. (A1.06, A2.04, A2.26, A.4.01, B3.03) 1) Reduce the achievement gap in Math I between white and black students from a 10.1 percentage point gap to a 5 percentage point gap. 2) Reduce the achievement gap in Math 3 between white and black students from a 41.8 percentage point gap to a 35 percentage point gap. 3) Reduce the achievement gap in Biology between white and black students from a 28.7 percentage point gap to a 23 percentage point gap. 4) Reduce the achievement gap in English 2 between white and black students from a 35.4 percentage point gap to a 30 percentage point gap.
- By June 2022, Western Guilford High School will reduce the number of lost instructional days resulting from Out-Of-School (OSS) suspensions from 173 in 2018-19 (pre-pandemic school year) to 150 in 2021-22. (A1.06, A2.17, A4.01, A4.06, C2.01, A4.16)

- By June 2022, Western Guilford High School will reduce the percent of students who are chronically absent from 15.5% to 12.5%. (A2.17, A4.01, A4.06, A4.16, B1.03, E1.06)
- By June 2022, Western Guilford High School will complete a minimum of two book studies on equity / culturally relevant teaching as documented by Canvas completion. (A1.02, A4.01, C3.04, C2.01) During the 2020-21 school year it was voluntary, but this year it will include all staff.

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 **Western Guilford High School** will be implementing:

- High Dosage Tutoring
- Learning Hub
- Staff Professional Development
- Social and Emotional Learning Activities
- Utilizing Interpreter/Community Liaison

**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 **The counseling office at 336-316-5800 EXT: 1220** 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.  
**Amber Steele (Last Names A-Coo)** [steelea2@gcsnc.com](mailto:steelea2@gcsnc.com)  
**Derrick Brower (Last Names Cop-Ha)** [browerd@gcsnc.com](mailto:browerd@gcsnc.com)  
**Melissa Decker (Last Names He-Mi)** [deckerm@gcsnc.com](mailto:deckerm@gcsnc.com)  
**Kelly Evans (Last Names Mj-Sc)** [evansk@gcsnc.com](mailto:evansk@gcsnc.com)  
**Courtney Shepherd (Last Names Sd-Z)** [shephec@gcsnc.com](mailto:shephec@gcsnc.com)
- 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.facebook.com/WesternGuilfordHighSchoolVolunteer>.  
<https://twitter.com/HornetWghs>  
[https://www.instagram.com/wghs\\_hornets](https://www.instagram.com/wghs_hornets)
- Join the **PTSO** <http://wghs.my-ptso.org/>

**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:**

- Western Guilford High School Social Worker  
**JeLetha Leary-Porter** 919-438-3434 [learyj@gcsnc.com](mailto:learyj@gcsnc.com)
- Graduation requirements: [www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/)
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: [www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/)
- State student achievement test results: [www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/](http://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:**

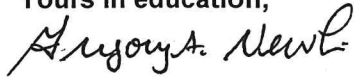
- Moved to a Pre-AP Curriculum
- My Perspective's English Curriculum
- Focused on PLC's
- MVP Math Curriculum
- Focused on Mastery Learning and Gradual Release



If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact our school at (336) 316-5800.

This will be effective on Monday February 7, 2022

Yours in education,



Gregory Newlin  
Principal

