

November 20, 2023

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 Jamestown Middle School 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 Jamestown Middle School's intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As a TSI-AT (ATSI) school, Jamestown Middle School 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 will employ to support Jamestown Middle School's improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas:

- Classroom Management
- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Instructional Leadership
- Recruitment & Retention of Effective Teachers
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Student Support Services
- Family and Community Engagement

We have set the following goals for Jamestown Middle School this year:

- By June 2024, JMS will increase the school performance composite from 46.2% to 50.8%
- By June 2024, JMS will strategically address culture and connectedness in the school by focusing on improved attendance among students. JMS will improve student attendance by focusing on reducing the number of students categorized as "chronically absent" by 5 percentage points.
- By June 2024, JMS will strategically address culture and connectedness in the school by focusing on positive culture, social/emotional health, and improved disciplinary outcomes. To measure this goal, JMS will decrease the number of instructional days lost to suspension by 10% (from 354 to 319) and reduce overall office referrals resulting in OSS by 10% (from 134 to 121).
- JMS will expand MTSS implementation fidelity to include consistent levels of tiered intervention for students in need of supplemental support for SEL and behavior.
- By June 2025, JMS will increase math proficiency among students enrolled in an 8th grade math course.

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

- Consistently evaluate student performance and ensure appropriate interventions are in place.
- Provide a learning team structure to promote effective classroom leadership and educational practices.

- Maintain integrity and fidelity in our discipline practices to effectively manage student behaviors and foster a safe and healthy student climate.

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).
- Communicate with your student's teachers or counselor 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. You can call them at (336)819-2100 or email them. All emails are listed on the school's website.
- 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 social media sites: https://www.gcsnc.com/jamestown_middle, <https://www.facebook.com/JMSTigers/>
- Volunteer.
- Join the Parent Teacher Association

Additionally, listed below are a few 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 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:

- We have established Core Social Emotional Learning Instruction for all grades
- We have targeted student intervention groups to mediate skill deficits in math and ELA.
- We have implemented new English Language Arts Curriculum
- We have established Professional Learning Communities for all staff members to learn and grow in the profession.
- We have developed and fine-tuned our designated intervention time to target specific skills (Tiger Time)

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Brittany Wells at wellsb@gcsnc.com or by phone at (336)819-2100.

Sincerely,



Dr. Trent Vernon
Principal