



7260 Highland Creek Parkway  
Charlotte, NC 28269  
Courier # 518  
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Northeast Learning Community  
Bell Schedule: 9:15 – 4:15  
Grades: 6-8

Date: Thursday, November 30 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in Ridge Road Middle School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Ridge Road Middle School has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) 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-AT schools in North Carolina are those that have a subgroup that is 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-AT school, Ridge Road Middle 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 Ridge Road Middle School this year:

- Every student will achieve such that our school will meet 50% of annual DPI designated school long term goals per subject and subgroups
- Every student will achieve such that our school will increase proficiency in reading and math, each by 10% of last school year's performance, as measured by state EOG assessments
- Our students will exist in a positive learning climate as measured by the Panorama Survey

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 Ridge Road Middle School will be implementing:

- All staff members will participate in high quality professional development on supporting exceptional children
- Implement differentiation strategies and small group in all classrooms
- Ensure that all staff are able to implement accommodations and modifications in alignment with student IEP 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).
- Please reach out to Assistant Principal, Mr. Higgins at [craig.higgins@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:craig.higgins@cms.k12.nc.us) 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://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/ridgeroadMS/Pages/Default.aspx>
- Volunteer.
- Join the **Ridge Road Middle School Parent Teacher Student Association**

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:

- Ridge Road Middle School Counselors (Mrs. Vanterpool-6th grade, Mrs. King -7th grade, Mrs. Franklin - 8th grade)
- 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:

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact us at 980-344-3410

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Gray', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Daniel Gray  
Principal  
Ridge Road Middle School