December 12, 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As a parent/guardian of a student in Tuckasegee Elementary School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Tuckasegee, 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, Tuckasegee 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 Tuckasegee this year:

- School Climate: Provide a positive school climate by promoting a safe learning environment free of bullying and harassing behavior.
- The percent of Black and Hispanic 3rd grade students combined who score at the College and Career Ready (CCR) level-a 4 or 5- on the English Language Arts EOG will increase from 9/1% in SY 2021-22 to 29>6% in SY 2022-23 and 50% in SY 2023-24. 2022-23 and SY 2023-24.
- We will meet or exceed Educator Value Added Assessment System growth for our overall school index in SY
- The percent of students reporting a positive self-perception of their self-efficacy will increase from 62% on the Fall 2021 Panorama Screener (in grades 3-5) to 68% in SY 2022-23 and 73% in SY 2023-24.
- Out-of-School Suspension disproportionately for Black students will decrease from 31.2% in SY 2021-22 to 26.2% in SY 2022-23 and 21.2% in SY 2023-24.

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 Tuckasegee Elementary will be implementing:

- Grade level PLC meetings to address unpacking standards
● Providing each teacher with a coach
● Administrators conduct classroom walk-throughs several times per week and provide meaningful feedback to enhance instruction
● Afterschool tutoring program

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 Dr. Vernessa Bowles, Dean of Students at 980-343-6055 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:
  - Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100086079430207
  - Instagram: Tuckaseegee Elementary

● Volunteer.

● Join the Tuckaseegee Elementary PTA

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/


We’re excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student. Already, we have:

● Differentiated small groups

● Targeted professional development for teachers

● LI/TD magnet program

● Providing students the opportunity to explore our community through field trips

● Initiating student choice electives

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Dr. Bowles at vernessam.bowles@cms.k12.nc.us or 980-343-6055.

Sincerely,

Travares Hicks

Travares Hicks,
Principal