



University Meadows Elementary School

1600 Pavilion Blvd.
Charlotte, North Carolina 28262
Phone: (980) 343-3685
Fax: (980) 343-3728

Date: 11/28/2023

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in University Meadows Elementary School, I am writing this letter to let you know that University Meadows Elementary 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, we are 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 University Meadows Elementary School this year:

- The percentage of combined Black and Hispanic third-grade students scoring at the College and Career Readiness (CCR) level, a 4 or 5, on the English Language Arts (ELA) EOG will increase from 9.2% in the 2021-22 school year to 50% in the 2023-24 school year.
- We will exceed the expected growth of the Educator Value-Added Assessment System (EVAAS) for Mathematics, improving from 55% in the 2021-22 school year to 70% in the 2023-24 school year.
- Maintain proportionality of our out-of-school suspension (OSS) data for Black students at 0% in the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years.

Our students need to experience higher achievement levels, but it will require hard work from staff, students, and families. Here are some strategies University Meadows will be implementing:

- Instructional leads will facilitate monthly PLCs during an extended half-day planning block in identifying the essential grade-level standards for learning by unpacking the standards, reviewing future assessments, and determining how the standards live in the assessments and throughout the lessons leading up to the assessment.
- Develop, schedule, and implement a school-wide data protocol for all PLCs to analyze student joint

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- assessment data and action plans based on standard-aligned student mastery.
- Review and revise the master schedule to ensure EC and ML service delivery supports students' mastery of standards-aligned core instruction.
- Utilize student data and strategic scheduling to ensure student schedules are developed to maximize time in core instruction to meet their IEP goals and grade-level standard expectations.
- Continue to review and revise the master schedule as new students enroll to ensure EC and ML service delivery is supporting students' mastery of standards-aligned core instruction.
- Define expectations for all staff regarding prework for PLC meetings that will maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of these collaborative meetings.
- Within the 2023-24 school year, our school identified the following resource inequity: instructional capacity; as a result, our school plans to mitigate this inequity by engaging in RELAY professional development to increase leader capacity around instructional best practices.

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 student know the 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 Mr. Bilal Tawwab, Principal, at (980) 343-3685 if you have questions or concerns about your student or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member 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://www.cmsk12.org/universitymeadowsES>.
- Volunteer.

It sounds like a lot, but preparing our students so that they can succeed is challenging and is a group effort. Here are some resources available to help:

- Ms. Hines, Family Advocate: sylviaa.hines@cms.k12.nc.us
- Mrs. Payne, School Social Worker: sonjal.payne@cms.k12.nc.us
- 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're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your students. Already, we have:

- Begun our Beginning Teacher Support Program.
- We began our monthly half-day planning periods.
- Begun small group work to target student needs.
- Hosted various Parent Universities to provide opportunities for parents to engage in learning with their students.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Mr. Bilal Tawwab at bilal1.tawwab@cms.k12.nc.us or (980)343-3685.

Sincerely,

Bilal Tawwab, Principal
University Meadows Elementary School

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