September 14, 2022

Dear Parent/Guardians:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in Albemarle Road Middle School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Albemarle 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. 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, Albemarle 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 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
- Tracking Suspension and Distributions with Educators Handbook.

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

WINNING GOALS for the year:

- We will increase the percent of teachers who meet or exceed expected growth on the Educator Value Added Assessment System (EVAAS).
- We will decrease disproportionality of Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) for Black students.
- We will increase the percent of students reporting positive perceptions in self-efficacy, self-management, and engagement in school.
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 Albemarle Road Middle School will be implementing:

- Nightly homework in Reading and Math courses
- Provide support in Math and Language Arts through the Teacher Leadership Program
- Encourage inquiry learning through IB Unit assessments
- Leadership and Coaching model for teachers
- Provide healthy social emotional wellness lessons through advisory
- Provide interventionists for math and language arts
- OSST tutoring services for students
- Rewarded attendance, behavior and academics for all students
- Redesigned master schedule to include more courses in World Languages
- Completed a deep data dive of transitioning 5th grader to 6th grade to identify underrepresented students who would benefit from accelerated learning experiences.
- Continue throughout the school year we collectively analyze data of students to flexibly move students into accelerated experience when they are ready.
- Strategically schedule Academic Enrichment for the needs of students, including providing opportunities for students to receive enrichment support for accelerated math experience.

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 **Principal Toni Perry at 980-343-6440** 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, on time 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/AlbemarleRoadMiddle](https://www.facebook.com/AlbemarleRoadMiddle)
  - Instagram arms.ib.academy
  - Twitter @AlbemarleRdMS_IB
  - School Website [https://www.cmsk12.org/albemarleroadMS](https://www.cmsk12.org/albemarleroadMS)
- Volunteer at school and use the school website to find opportunities throughout the school year
- Join the **ARMS PTO**
  - Cash App dues to Salbrdp_pto, include your name and your child’s name in the memo
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:

- OSST tutoring, Contact Cecilia Armour at 980-343-6420
- Khan Academy @ https://khanacademy.org
- Prodigy @ https://www.prodigygame.com/
- Flocabulary @ https://www.flocabulary.com/ students have logins
- One Access @ https://cmlibrary.org/oneaccess
- Student Portal @ https://clever.com/in/cms/teacher/homeroom/district-pages
- 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:

- Achieved the honor of being a National Forum School to Watch
- 2020 Magnet School of Excellence
- Several staff members are Staff to Watch through National Forum

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Toni Perry at toni.perry@cms.k12.nc.us or at 980-343-6420

Sincerely,

Toni Perry