

Piney Grove Elementary School

8801 Eaglewind Dr.
Charlotte, NC 28212

Phone 980-343-6470
Fax 980-343-6523

November 26, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

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

- The percent of Kindergarten through 2nd grade students scoring at or above benchmark in early literacy as measured by DIBELS will increase from **78.5%** in SY2023-24 to **82.0% in SY2024-25**.
- The percentage of students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on reading End of Grade assessments in grades 3-5 will increase from **19.8%** in SY2023-24 to **21.1% in SY2024-25**.
- The percent of identified EL students that meet their yearly progress will increase from **43.1 %** in SY2023-24 to **60%** in SY24-25.
- The percent of K-2 Hispanic students, scoring at or above benchmark in early literacy as measured by DIBELS will increase from **70.4 %** in SY2023-24 to **80%** in SY2024-25.

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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 Piney Grove Elementary will be implementing:

- Implement school-wide MTSS processes and procedures which include monthly MTSS Leadership meetings and monthly MTSS grade level meetings that include all stakeholders.
- Develop and implement a strategic ML support plan to include PLC support, direct ML plan support, and ALFA groupings.
- Implement school-wide fluency data tracking protocols with fidelity to support student ownership in increasing fluency.
- Monthly Collaborative Leadership Walks will be conducted by the leadership team utilizing the Core Action Learning Walk tool to monitor core action alignment and equity of instruction.
- Morning Meetings will be held daily for all grade levels using Caring Schools and other SEL resources. Counselors will conduct weekly walkthroughs to monitor effectiveness of morning meetings at Piney Grove.

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 Scott Morgan (K,1), Dominique Perkins (2,3) & Felicia Walker-Cooper (4,5) at (980)343-6470 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://www.cmsk12.org/pineygroveES>
- ❖ Volunteer
- ❖ Join the Piney Grove 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/
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/data-reports/school-report-cards>

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

- CHAMP Time- Intervention/Enrichment Block
- Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Felicia Walker-Cooper at felicia.walker@cms.k12.nc.us or via phone at (980)343-6470..

Sincerely,



Felicia Walker-Cooper