West Hoke Middle School

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Dr. Mary A. McLeod, Principal Dr. Franklin Bowden, Assistant Principal Ms. Deidre Gales, Assistant Principal

September 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 West Hoke Middle School, I am writing this letter to let you know that West Hoke Middle 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, West Hoke 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

We have set the following goals for West Hoke Middle School this year:

At the end of the 2023-2024 academic year, our 6th-8th grade students will increase proficiency from 50% to 58% measured by the End-of-Grade Assessments.

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 West Hoke Middle will be implementing: 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 any member of the Administrative Team at (910) 875-3411, 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.hcs.k12.nc.us/whms
- Volunteer.
- Join the Parent Teacher Organization

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:

- West Hoke Middle School
- 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/sre

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

- Met Growth
- Continuing to implement our Flex plan and strategies for achieving our goals
- Have evidence of an effectively functioning, elected School Improvement Team and the School Improvement Plan, aligned with district and state strategic priorities

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Dr. Mary McLeod atmmcleod@hcs.k12.nc.us or (910) 875-3411

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary A. McLeod

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