



November 4, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I am writing this letter to notify you that East Garner Magnet Middle School has been designated as both a North Carolina Low-Performing school and a federally identified Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education.

As defined in G.S. 115C-105.37: "The State Board of Education shall identify low-performing schools on an annual basis. Low-performing schools are those that earn an overall school performance grade of D or F and a school growth score of "met expected growth" or "not met expected growth" as defined by G.S. 115C-83.15." Legislation (G.S. §115C-83.15) passed during the 2013 long North Carolina General Assembly session provides parents with an additional measure of school performance in the form of School Performance Grades.

School Performance Grades are based 80 percent on our school's achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students' academic growth. At East Garner Magnet Middle School, our achievement score for the 2023-2024 school year is based on how well our students performed on NC End of Grade Testing for 6–8 Mathematics, Grades 6–8 English Language Arts/Reading, Grades 8 Science, NC Math 1, and additional indicators including English Learner Progress. Based on this data, East Garner Magnet Middle School received a School Performance Grade of **D** and a growth designation of **Met** for the 2023–2024 school year.

In addition, per the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1111(d)(2), schools receive the federal identification of TSI-AT in North Carolina by having one or more of the following subgroups receive a subgroup performance grade score at or below the lowest 5% of schools across the state during the 2022-2023 academic year; and being identified as a consistently underperforming subgroup for the previous year. Subgroup performance scores are provided for the following subgroups of students: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners.

As a dually designated TSI-AT and NC low-performing school, East Garner Magnet Middle School is required to develop a comprehensive improvement plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve student achievement. Our comprehensive improvement 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 **East Garner Magnet Middle School** this year:

- By June 2026, EGMMS will demonstrate a 20% increase in academic growth across core subjects from 38.6% to 46.32% including scholars from all subgroups as measured by benchmark assessments and EOG scores.
- By June 2026, EGMMS will demonstrate a 15% increase in student proficiency in relationship skills from 43% to 63%, social awareness skills from 51% to 71% and responsible decision making skills from 52% to 72% as measured by the BIMAS screener and ECATS data.
- June 2026, EGMMS will implement strategies to enhance family-school partnerships and increase Parent Engagement events participation will increase from 14 % to 39 % focusing on eliminating disparities among marginalized groups as measured by event attendance and Panorama Survey results.

Here are some strategies that East Garner Magnet Middle School will be implementing to improve student outcomes:

- Analyze data from STAR Reading and Math screeners, Lexia and Delta Math support programs and NC Check In assessments to identify trends, strengths, and areas for improvement.
- Implement Second Step curriculum across all grade levels.
- Create a shared calendar of events and important dates to be included in communications to families.

Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways you can help:

- Call **Destiny Fullwood at 919-662-6339** if you have questions or concerns about your child or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member who will be working with your child.
- Make sure that your child is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your child's homework.
- Monitor the progress your child is making and attend meetings with your child's teacher(s).
- Keep track of our website and social media sites **[East Garner Magnet Middle School](#)**; **Facebook @East Garnermms**; and **X @EastGarnerMMS**
- Volunteer.
- Join the **East Garner Magnet Middle School PTSA**.

Additionally, listed below are a few resources available to help: East Garner Magnet 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://www.dpi.nc.gov/data-reports/school-report-cards>

We are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no one single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about the performance of a school or the opportunities that our school provides. The intent of receiving these designations is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction. We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your child.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Sharon Fennell** at **slfennell@wcpss.net**

Sincerely,

Sharon Fennell, Principal