



November 3, 2023

Greetings Ligon Families,

I hope the school year is off to a successful start for you and your child. I am writing this letter to let you know that Ligon Magnet Middle School has been designated as a Targeted Support and improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. Per ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), schools are identified as TSI-AT schools in North Carolina because one or more of the following subgroups received a subgroup performance grade score at or below the highest identified CSI-LP school's All Students group during the identification year; and is on the TSI-CU list for the subgroup(s) for the previous year. Subgroup performance scores are provided for the following subgroups: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners. This letter is to notify our parents and guardians of Ligon Magnet Middle School's intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As a TSI-AT (ATSI) school, Ligon Magnet Middle School is required to develop an Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve outcomes for underperforming subgroups. The plan will also include strategies that our district or charter will employ to support Ligon's School improvement efforts. The ATSI 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 goal for Ligon this year:

By June 2024, Ligon will have evaluated intervention/enrichment structures and scheduling to increase student outcomes on overall EOG proficiency by 3% while closing our achievement gap by meeting/exceeding overall growth across content areas as measured by EOG's and EVAAS data.

Here are some strategies that we will be implementing to improve student outcomes:

- Utilizing IXCELand StarMath for all students for math support and progress monitoring to increase math proficiency.
- Utilizing FastBridge for all students to progress monitor literacy.
- Administering NC CheckIns to progress monitor student performance.
- Differentiating and adapting assignments to help increase rigor and understanding for all students.

- Leveraging assessment data to consistently monitor student progress towards standards mastery.
- Explicitly teaching Approaches to Learning Skills to all students.

Also, 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 the academic expectations set for your student. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).
- Call your grade level administrator at 919-856-7929 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.
- Stay in contact with your child's teacher(s) via email, talking points, phone calls, and teacher websites.
- Monitor the progress your student is making and attend meetings with your student's teacher(s).
- Find pertinent information via our school website and social media sites <https://www.wcpss.net/ligonms>
- Join the Ligon PTA.

Additionally, listed below are a few 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://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>

We are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about a school's performance 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. **Already, this past year we have been recognized for moving from a C to a B school due to our increase in overall EOG proficiency and our students' met growth with all subgroups.**

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please feel free to contact me at gduvall@wcpss.net or 919-856-7929.

Sincerely,

Gary Duvall

Principal